Vatican admits Jews persecution

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — The Validan has acknowledged for the first time that the Catholic Church had a role in centuries of persecution of the lews, including the World War II Holocaus, according to a document obtained here Wednesday. In a draft document yet to be ratified by Pope John Paul II, the Vatican says: "A terrible mixture of religious, social, economical, political and racial hostility created the historical basis for the European Jews being driven on their deadly way toward the Shoah (Flolocaust)." And th three-part paper, a copy of which has been obtained by AFP, acknowledges that the "Church as a whole offered no effective resistance to the Nazi persecution and extermination." It has been hailed by Rabbi David Rosen, head of the committee charged with overseeing relations between Judaism and the Catholic Church, as "an exceptional and historic" document.

Volume 18 Number 5619

AMMAN THURSDAY-FRIDAY, MAY 26-27, 1994, THU AL-HIGHEH 15-16, 1414

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#### Arafat's wife denies divorce

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ROME (R) - The wife of Palestine Liberation Organisa-tion (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat Wednesday dismissed Italian press reports that the couple were about to divorce as part of a slur campaign to slow Palestinian self-rule. Suha Arafai issued her denial through a Rome based Arab journalist after the reports appeared in several Italian newspapers. "I am at home at the side of my husband President Arafat," her statement said. She also denied reports that her uncle, George Hawa, had been arrested last week in Tunis on Arafat's personal orders and interrogated. "I deny most caregorically the reports carried today about an alleged marital crisis," Suha Arafat said.

#### King Hassan appoints new premier

RABAT (R) - King Hassan of Morocco Wednesday appointed Abdellatif Filali as the country's new prime minister, the official news agency MAP said. Filali, a former foreign affairs minister, replaced Mohammed Karim amarani, who has led a government of technocrats since last Novembet. The MAP report gave no indication why Lamarani was replaced.

#### 3rd of immigrants to Israel not Jewish

TEL AVIV (AP) — Almost a third of recent arrivals from the former Soviet Union are nol Jewish, a government report said, sparking calls Wednesday for tightening liberal immigration laws. "We're making a mockery of the goal for which Israel was established," said lawmaker Aviaham Ravitz of the United Torah Jewry Party, speaking on Israel radio. He said Israel's Law of Relurn, granting citizenship to immigrants with at least one Jewish grandparent, should be annulled because it "is today being exploited by... hundreds of thousands of people who are not Jewish." Mt. Ravitz spoke after population registry\_officials told legislators on Tuesday that 29 per cent of the 66,000 immigrants from the former Soviet republics in 1993 had no Jewish background. iviany of the non-Jews are spouses, in-laws or stepchildren of the Jewish immigrant. all included in the law of re-

#### Ghali eyes second term at U.N.

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) - U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali said Wednesday that he would request a second term in the position at the end of 1996 if he is healthy. "The question will be raised in 1996 and it will depend on my own physical capaciries," Dr. Gha-li, 71, said. Meanwhile," Dr. Ghali asked a top level Norwegian foreign ministry advisor on the Middle East to become U.N. secretary general's deputy, the Norwegian foreign ministry said here Wednesday. Foreign Ministry Spokesman ingvar Havnen said Dr. Ghali requested Monday that Terje Roed Larsen become his deputy on Middle Eastern issues.

#### israel sold Rwanda ammunition

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel sold hundreds of thousands of dollars of ammunition to the Rwandan government just before the country disintegrated into an orgy of tribal killing, an Istaeli ually reported Wednesday. istacl's foreign ministry approved the sale by Israeli military industries seven roken to<sup>llet</sup> months ago, saying Rwanda was a legal government facing owis yield® tebel insurgents, the respected Haaretz daily said. Israel and Rwanda do not have diplomatic ties. Israeli Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gadi Baltiansky had no comment on the story. A statement from the defence ministry said, "the ministry does not telate to the activities and results of all defence exports." Israel has long trained and equipped African

# Sanaa eases offensive on Aden Lebanon tries 7 to give negotiations a chance

U.S. enters mediations to end the war

Sanaa government has decided against storming the southern Yemeni capital Aden inimediately as it wants more time to persuade southern secessionists that the country should stay united, a minister said Wednesday.

Planning Minister Abdul Karim Al Irvani told reporters that the northern forces also had other military tasks to complete belore an attack on Aden would be feasible,

We have committed ourselves not to be hasty in entering Aden, in the hope of any political solution ... We won't enter hy force without giving a political solution a chance," he said.

The Sanza government is negotiating with moderate members of the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) of southern leader Ali Salem Al Beidh on a settlement which would reunite the country without the need for fighting.

Meanwhile, the United

States has contacted three Arab countries in an effort to belp broker a ceasefire between rival leaders in the Yemen civil war, an Egyptian diplomat said.

Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) were contacted because they "are the three Arab countries



A southern Yemeni lighter adjusts his artillery gun near Aden Tuesday (AFP photo)

best placed" to ensure "an indirect dialogue between the northen and southern Yemenis," the diplomat said.

The three have already urged the warring sides to lay down arms and start talks to end the civil war which broke out on May 5.

The aim of the U.S.-led

Mr. Abu Askar told Reuters

that 133 Fatch Hawks, a group

mediation was to "preserve Yemen's unity without resorting to force." the diplomat

He hinted that northern troops loyal to President Ali Abdullah Saleh would be called upon to accept a ceasefire in exchange for the south giving up its unilateral declaration

of independence "There is still a chance of ending the fighting in Yemen," he said,

U.S. charge d'affairs Edmund Hull told reporters following talks with Egyptian Minister Amr Musa, for the second time within 24 hours, that Egypt and the United

States were working "10 obtain a ceasefire in Yemen and facilitate the opening of talks between the two protagonists." A U.S. diplomatic source said Mr. Musa and Mr. Hull discussed "practical steps to

end the fighting and encourage (Continued on page 3)

# Abu Nidal suspects for killing Maayteh

sons went on trial Wednesday in Lebanon's first full-scale trial for the murder of a foreign diplomat since the 1975-90 civil war in which several envoys were killed or kidnapped.

The accused, all members of the radical Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC) of guerrilla leader Abu Nidal, ace possible death penalties if convicted of shooting Jordanian Embassy Firsi Secretary Na'eb Al Maayteh on January 29.

Mr. Maayteh was gunned down in broad daylight on a street in mainly Muslim West Beirut in a killing that revived memories of Beirut's past during the 1970s and 1980s as the murder and kidnap capital of the Middle

Lebanese authorities quickly rounded up suspects and charged IS alleged FRC members with the killing. Only three accused, includ-

ing the suspected gunman Yousef Shabaan, were in the heavily guarded court when the trial opened before Lehanon's five-judge judicial council which bandles cases concerning national security. The council is Lebanon's

highest court. Its decisions cannot be appealed but death sentences must be apotoved by Lebanese President Elias Maayteh in his car "until he was sure of his death," The other four accused,

who are still being hunted, are being tried in their abs-The prosecution said the

eight remaining original suspects had not yet been fully identified but were also being Political sources speculated

at the time that Mr. Maayteb was gunned down to stop Jordan going ahead with a peace agreement with Israel. Abu Nidal's group vehemently opposes Arab-Israeli ocace talks but has denied involvement in the killing.

Several foreign envoys, including a U.S. and a French ambassador, were assassinated in Beiru: during the civil war and Lebanon has only just begun bringing the killers to justice.

Hussein Tlais, a pro-Iranian Lebancse Muslim militant, was sentenced to life imprisonment last month for killing Colonel Christian Gouttietre, the French embassy's military attache, in

Nameq Ahmad Kamal, a Lebanese suspected of taking part in the 1976 killing of U.S. Ambassadot Francis E. Meloy, emhassy economic counsellor Robert O. Waring and their Lebanese driver

Mr. Shabaan is accused of (Continued on page 3)

## Police disarm Fateh activists Israel has contingency plans to reenter Gaza

GAZA (Agencies) - Palestinian security forces in the Gaza Strip have for the first time disarmed members of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat's faction, a Fatch official

"Security men heard gun shots in Gaza, and found two Fatch activists with guns, so they took them (the weapons) away," said the official, Abdul Salam Abu Askar.

police, locally called the Palestinian National Security Forces, would issue statements on Sunday appealing to Gaza residents to hand over their weapons in special security centres.

The police are responsible for security in the Arab population centres vacated by Israel last week under a selfrule accord with the PLO. Israeli officials have deman-

on Gaza after two Israeli soldiers were shot dead last Friday in a guerrilla attack at the Erez Border crossing point. Palestinians are armed to the teeth in the Gaza Strip. One Palestinian security official

said there were about 13,000

weapons in the hands of Fatch

members alone.

that had been at the forefront said Wednesday. security forces.

He said the Palestinian self-rule area in Jericho.

what used to be the headquar-

ded the PLO tighten its reins

of armed resistance to Israeli occupation, started on Wednesday a 45-day training programme in Gaza before their incorporation into the Fateh Hawks and Palesti-

nian police commanders reached an agreement earlier this month on enlisting the Hawks. The group had complained it was being excluded from security arrangements in the Gaza Strip and the other "They are being trained in

ters of the Israeli military governor. They will not leave that place until the training course is over," Mr. Abu Askar said. But the PLO faces a cash crisis just as it needs money to fund the Palestinian police and the civil administration in the

first weeks of self-rule, Palestinian and donor sources say. At the same time, the PLO leadership in Tunis has increasingly tried to bypass a World Bank master plan to develop the Palestinian economy, and has been wooing individual donors and large Western corporations, de-

Zakaria Al Agha, an appointee to the Palestinian authority, said last week the PLO was working on how to pay the civil administration's 7,000 employees. Israel has paid their wages until the end of this month.

'We are not at full capacity because the donor states have unfortunately been slow in. transferring the money they promised. We need money quickly to bring more men and equip them properly," Colonel Abdel Moti Al Sibawi said in

Palestinian sources said Nabil Shaath, the PLO's negotiator during the Cairo talks leading up to the self-rule accord, visited Gaza last week to hand out money to the

Palestinian police.
About 3,000 policemen have been deployed in Gaza for two weeks now. Most of them are sleeping on floors with little or no basic facilities and relying on hand-outs from Gazan residents. Some say they have not been paid for nine months.

Dr. Shaath did not say how much be brought over. Israeli media reports suggested it was about \$400,000. According to Palestinian and World Bank calculations, the

million in its first year of operation.

Meanwhile Israeli media reported Wednesday that the Israeli army has contingency plans to reenter Gaza if the first phase of the peace process did oot succed.

"It is clear that if it won't work in the coming weeks and months.... we will no doubt draw our conclusions," southern commander Maj. Gen. Matan Vilnai told Israeli newspapers on Wednesday. "The army is a body that creates plans of all sorts, and today we do have contingency plans for

returning to Gaza."
On Wednesday an attempt by the Israeli military commander in to travel the main northsouth road was blocked by Palestinian police who refused to let him pass and stone-throwing, Palestinian reporters

Brig. Gen. Doron Almog was stopped at a Palestinian police checkpoint near the road that leads to the Jewish settlement of Netzarim, just south of Gaza city.

An Israeli military officer in the region said the general told the Palestinian lieutenant be wanted to travel to his headgroup of Jewish settlements.

### Gazans could face starvation

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) - Palestinians in the Gaza Strip will face "starvation" if they are not allowed to return to work in Israel by the end of the week, a Palestinian official warned Wednesday.

"If in the next 72 hours our merchants and workers are not given permission to cross into Israel, there will be starvation," Freih Abu Muddein, who is member of the Palestinian self-rule aothority, told AFP.

Israel last week sealed off the new Palestinian self-rule area when Muslim militants killed two soldiers at Gaza's main Erez crossing. Prime Minister Yitzhak

Rabin said Gaza would re-main sealed off until the Palestinian police in charge of the strip erected check points at the crossings in order to prevent such attacks.

The Palestinian authority's efforts to talk Israel into reopening the crossing have failed so far, according to Mr. Abu Muddein. "We are discussing around

the clock with the Israelis, but we have not been able to achieve anything yet," he said.
"If necessary, we will ask

the U.S. sponsor (of the Middle East peace talks) to intervene, otherwise we will try and open up a communica-tion link with Egypt" at the Strip's soutbern edge, be added. Gaza's economy is based

on reminances from its workers who have jobs in Israel. Palestinian statistics put at 60 per cent the unemployment rate in the Gaza Strip, which covers 370 square kilometres and has nearly 800,000 inhabitants.

Last week's decision to seal-off Gaza came as an additional measure restricting the Palestinians' access to Israel's work market.

The closure of the Gaza Strip also affected trade and industry, according to Palestinian economist Salah

### Mitterrand insists on arms embargo Clinton defends policy

PARIS (AFP) — President François Mitterrand Wednesday insisted be was opposed to lifting the arms embargo on ex-Yugoslavia, as French pressure groups backing the Sarajevo government lobbied for an end to the sanctions.

Mr. Mitterrand, who spoke at a cabinet meeting, warned that proposals to exempt the Muslim-led government from the embargo could trigger an escalation of the Bosnian conflict that could "go well beyond the Balkans," his spokesman Jean Musitelli said.

With France Wednesday playing host to talks attended by diplomats from the European Union, Russia and the United States and by the warring Bosnian parties, Mr. Milterrand said the "sole alternative to negotiation is war."

In an interview with five European papers Wednesday, the French president added that the future of France's U.N. troops presence in Bosnia would depend on the outcome of an international conference.

The question (of a pullous of U.N. troops) would be posed if the conference where the Americans, the European Union and the Russians participate is delayed.

The French proposal is aimed al arranging talks among the factions and the three great powers, which have so far expressed themselves separately.

The French president called for an immediate conference after the Serbs pulled most of their troops out of the eastern Bosnian town of Gotazde, under NATO pressure, at the end of April. Mr. Mitterrand's Socialist

ally, Michel Rocard, who heads the French Socialist Party and the Socialist list for the June 12 European elections, has publicly differed with the president, speaking out in favour of lifting the embargo against the mainly Muslim Bosnian army.

A group of French intellectuals has also threatened to present their own list at the European elections if the mainstream lists do not call for allowing arms deliveries to Bosnian government troops. Bosnian President Alilia lzetbegovic met with Mr. Rocard and other officials in

Paris Monday to plead this Mr. Rocard, a presidential nopeful. Wednesday urged that 'negotiations still be given a chance.' But be said 'elementary morality would imply that at least if we cannot protect the Bosnians, we let

them protect themselves." The talks with the international contact group on Bosnia-Herzegovina took place Wednesday in Talloires. a town in the French Alps just across the border from Gene-

The meeting aimed to reach an agreement on the future carve-up of Bosnia-Herzegovina alongside a general four-month ceasefire. as a prelude to a permanent

Earlier Wednesday. Defence Minister Francois Leotard confirmed that the French military contingent in former Yugoslavia would be dropped by 2,500 men by the end of the year. France, which forms the backbone of the U.N. force in ex-Yugoslavia, now has 6,800 troops there.

By the end of 1994, "we are going to drop the volume of our forces in Bosnia and we are going to regroup them around Sarajevo," Mr. Leolard said on French radio.

France, and later Britain, have both warned they would pull their forces out of Bosnia if there is no breakthrough in the peace process. Britain has about 3,000 troops in former Yugoslavia.

In Washington, meanwhile. President Bill Clinton reitet ated U.S. commitment to helping enforce an eventual peace settlement in Bosnia.

Mr. Clinton defended his policy in the former Yugoslavia and promised the United States would play its part in policing an eventual peace

He blasted calls for the United States to unilaterally break the U.N. arms embargo on the former Yugoslavia

# Israeli warplanes attack S. Lebanon

Shiite leaders demand condemnation of Dirani's abduction

MARJAYOUN, Lehanon (Agencies) — İsraeli war-planes Wednesday attacked South Lehanun with fout fighter-bombets swooping duwn on the hills of Iqlim Al Tuffah at 4:05 p.m. [1305 GMT1, security sources said. Two of the jets fired two air-to-surface missiles each on bluffs in the area, which serves as a stronghold for the

Party of God. There was no immediate world on casualties from the raid on Jahal Rafih on the edge of an Israeli-occupied

Shiite Muslim Hizbollah, ot

enclave in southern Lebanon. The taiding jets quickly

swetved west over the

Mediterranean and back home after hitting their targets, said the sources. They spoke on condition of anonymity. No ground fire was directed at the jets, they

Israeli forces have been hracing for guerrilla attacks to avenge the kidnapping of a Shiile Muslim leader Saturday. Shiite militants have vowed revenge.

It was the second Istaeli ait raid nn Iglim Al Tuffah, or Apple Province, in as many days and the 14th air raid into Lebanon this year. A total of nine people have been killed and 10 wounded in the previous air strikes.

Istaeli warplanes targetted nearby Hizbollah outposts in fiery sorties Tuesday morning. No word on casualties was available from Israeliheld sector to the south of Iglim Al Tuffah.

Wednesday's acrial action was in no-man's land be-Iween Hizhollah positions and Israeli-held areas of south Lebanon, indicating the Israelis were this time after suspected infiltrators.

The security sources said guerrillas had been trying 10 inliltrate into Israeli-

occupied tettitory through

the rugged terrain near Jabal

Rafih and apparently were spotted by the Israelis, who

called their powerful air force into action. Iglim Al Tuffah has been

subjected to Israeli artillery fire since the morning. Scores of shells had been lobbed at Hizbollah positions. There was no immediate word on casualties from the bombard-Earliet Wednesday, Istaeli

mer with tank fire after they apparently mislook him for a guernilla, U.N. sources said. Rashid Mansour, 60, was working in the fields at 5 a.m. (0200 GMT) near the village of Taibeh when an Israeli

troops killed a Lebanese far-

(Continued on page 3)

### Chemical attacks during Gulf war confirmed—report

WASHINGTON (AP) -Strong evidence exists that Iraq attacked U.S. troops with mical weapons during the Gulf war, spreading contaminants that have siekened thousands of Americans, according to a congressional

The 160-page report, re-leased Wednesday hy Sen. Donald Riegle, lists more than a dozen incidents where American troops appear to have beeo exposed to chemical ageots, mainly from rocket

It disputes Pentagon contentions that there is no evidence of Iraqi chemical uttacks during the 1991 war, and criticises the Defence Department for not having the capability to confirm whether troops were exposed to biological agents.

The report also says that, contrary to Pentagon claims that nerve agent levels de-tected by the Czechs and other allies during the war were not harmful, monitoring equipment only picks up nerve agents when levels are 1.000 times higher than what is deemed to be hazardous.

Pentagon and intelligence officials will have an opportunity to respond to the report at a hearing of the Senate Banking Committee that Sen. Riegle

The report includes testimony from 30 Gulf war veterans who say that apparent Iraqi missile: attacks were followed by the sounding of chemical agent detectors, the air filling with fumes and burning sensaAlmost all are now suffering

from the debilitating symptoms of what has come to be known as "Persian Gulf syndrome. "There are multiple witnesses to what appear to be best explained as chemical or mixed agent attacks," the report said. "Symptoms appeared simultaneously with alarms going off

Sen. Riegle said his yearlong investigation included interviews with 600 Americao troops, many of whom corroborated reports of chemical

(and) Patriots intercepting

exposures. One soldier stationed in Saudi Arabia reported a loud explosion early in the morning of Jan. 17, 1991, followed by a sounding of alarms and a burning sensation on his face. Of the unit's 110 soldiers, 85 now suffer from medical problems.

Two days later, in another part of Saudi Arabia, witnesses reported a sharp odor of ammonia after a "real bad explosion" and more alarms going off.

At another location that day, a naval construction worker said his mouth, lips and face became numh after a loud explosion.

A soldier based near King Fahd International Airport on Jan. 20 said he saw what he believed to be a Scud missile shot down by a Patriot missile. He experienced "a very strong raunchy taste, like very bitter burnt toast" in his mouth. He now suffers from bleeding, dizziness, hair loss, joint pain,

insomnia and blurred vision, symptoms common to many returning from the Gulf.

Despite the numerous chemical alerts, troops were told by their commanding officers that the explosions came from sonic bombs.

The report said that in addition to direct attacks, there appear to be three other primary sources of exposure:

Fallout from coalition bombing of Iraqi chemical and hiological warfare plants. Visual and thermal satellite imagery confirms that fallout during the air and ground war moved to the southeast, toward American forces.

- The administration of nerve agent vaccines to troops, some which act in a manner similar to the actual agent. - Continuing contact with Iraqi prisoners of war.

The Pentagon and the Veterans Affairs Department have launched several programmes to register sick veterans, study their symptoms and search for treatment. But while they aeknowledge that the illnesses are real, they say there is no evidence of a single cause.

Sen. Riegle's report recom-mends declassification of all information on Irag's chemical and biological warfare programmes, a thorough Gulf war veterans, a study of the impact of nerve agent vaccines and a presumption of service-connection so sick veterans can receive medical

police jeep with Qassam activists sitting on the bood.

The Qassam men, armed with U.S.-made M-16 assault

KHAN YOUNIS, Gaza (R) -

PLO policemen in Gaza were

the pallbearers at a funeral for

groop which opposes the Israel-PLO peace accord. About 30 Palestinian police-

men took part in the daylight

funeral procession for Jihad

Asfour alongside 10 armed members of the Islamic resist-

ance movement Hamas's milit-

ary wing Qassam and thousands of other Hamas sup-

Four of the policeman car-

ried the coffin and one kissed

the body before it was buried.

The coffin was transported in a

a militant of the Islamie Hamas

(AFP photo)

porters.

rifles, and the PLO policemen fired in the air in unison at the military-style funeral. Israeli forces killed Asfour.

Palestinian policemen carry the body of Jihad Asfur during his funeral in Khan Yunes Tuesday

PLO police pallbearers at Hamas funeral

28. Sunday when they demolished a house in the West Bank village of Tufah with anti-bank missiles. The army initially said be was a wanted member of Islamic Jihad, a group also opposed to the accord.

Israeli troops withdrew from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank enclave of Jericho last week under the terms of the May 4 peace accord with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Israel has demanded the PLO police prevent Hamas and other opposition groups operating in the self-rule areas from attacking Israelis. Hamas took responsibility for killing two Israeli soldiers at a checkpoint between Gaza and Israel last Friday, two days after the Israeli army completed its withdrawal.

Israel never allowed daytime funerals or mass processions for Hamas militants when it controlled Gaza.

Taking advantage of their new freedom, the Qassam gunmen exposed their faces to televisioo cameras. Under Israeli rule, militants only appeared in public with faces masked by headscarves.

The crowd chanted "Allaho Akbar" (God is great) and other Islamic and pro-Hamas

enced." Mr. Salazar said.

According to MSF, 45 per

### Sudan faces mass starvation — agencies

ference here, representatives

from MSF, the British charity

Oxfam, Save the Children, the

U.N. Children's Fund and the

NAIROBI (AFP) - Sudan, gripped by a relentless civil warned Tuesday.

"The Sudanese are on the brink of a famine as potentially devastating as the one experienced in Somalia in 1992 (which killed an estimated 300,000 people)," said Gabriel Salazar of the French medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF; Doctors Without

more than a decade of famine. stemming from drought and the displacement of millions of southerners by 11 years of war between mainly Christian and animist southern rebels and the Islamic fundamentalist military

World Food Programme said they had about 20,000 tonnes of food stored in Kenya and Uganda but had no money to nirlift it to Sudan. It costs \$1,000 to fly a tonne of food into the south, a vast undeveloped region of swamps

and savannah with few roads. The agencies appealed to donors to finance an emergency food airlift to the 600,000 most vulnerable people in the three southern provinces of Bahr El Ghazal, Jonglei and Eastern Equatoria.

"The failure of the international community to finance the air delivery of this food from Kenya to Sudan within the next three weeks will result bad as what Somalia. expericent of southerners are malnourished, 10 per cent severely. In the Akon region, 40 per cent of infants aged from 6 months to 17 months were believed to have died of malnutrition or diseases exacerbated by lack of food over the past few months. Sudan's emergency is being

overshadowed hy wholesale slaughter in Rwanda and the war in the former Yugoslavia, the aid workers said.

Peace talks in Nairobi between the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army and the government have been adjourned until July.

The army, which taunched a major offensive at the end of last year, is steadily gaining ground against the divided rewarring factions in 1991.

### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### Israeli soldiers warned of kidnap danger

MARIAYOUN, Lebanon (AFP) — Israeli soldiers have been ordered to be on maximum alert against being taken hostage in reprisal for the abduction of a Muslim guerrilla chief, pro-Israeli radio reported Wednesday. The commander of Israel's northern region, General Yitzhak Mordechai, said Israel had "information that terrorists will try to kidnap soldiers" in retaliation for the capture of Mustafa Dirani, said the Voice of the South, run by the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army militia. Israeli commandos snatched Mr. Dirani, leader of the pro-Iranian Resistance of the Faithful group, from his bome in Lebanon on Saturday in an attempt to trace missing airman Ron Arad, whose plane was shot down over south Lebanon in 1986. Gen. Mordechai did not elaborate but be said during a tour of Israel's "security zone" in south Lebanon Tuesday that Israeli soldiers were ordered to be on maximum alert. Israel has ordered its embassies abroad to tighten security and military officials have said the army was ready for revenge attacks following threates of retaliation from guerrilla organisations, including Hizbollah.

#### Qadhafi predicts breakup of U.S.

BEIRUT (AP) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi said in an interview published Wednesday that the United States would break up the same way the former Soviet Union and Yugoslavia were divided along ethnic lines. He told the London-based Al Hayat newspaper that America is made up-of "disharmonious mosaic which will not coexist." "We expect America's collapse. The blacks will be independent, the Indians will be independent and the whites will be independent, so will the other minorities," Col. Qadhafi said. 'It is probable that a civil war will break out in America just like in Lebanon," he said, referring to this nation's 1975-90 strife. Col. Qadhafi said a U.S. leader similar to former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev could avoid a hloody disintegration of the United States "if he gave independence to the people of the American states and made the split peaceful." The newspaper said the interview was conducted last week in Col. Qadhafi's tent in the Libyan capital of Tripoli. The United States is Col. Qadhafi's arch-foe. U.S. warplanes bombed his headquarters in 1986 after Tripoli was implicated in a Berlin disco bombing that killed two off-duty American servicemen.

### Pay strike shuts Lebanon's schools

BEIRUT (R) - Most Lebanese schools closed Wednesday as the country's 70,000 teachers held a one-day strike to protest at the government's failure to increase their professional allowances in line with normal practice. Unions demand that the government raise allowances - which make up a large proportion of salaries in Lebanon - in the same proportion as basic pay rises agreed last November. The accord raised salaries by 30-70 per cent depending on pay grades but the government broke with oormal practice by saying professional allowances will continue to be based on the old minimums. Ministers in Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri's cash-strapped government, which is trying to rebuild the country after the 1975-90 civil war, have said wages are far too low but it lacks funds to increase them further. Lebanon's General Labour Confederation (CGTL) accuses the government of trying to freeze professional allowances — which it says make up two-thirds of the average pay packet - and called a protest march in Beirut last month on the issue and other grievances. Labour chiefs backed down when authorities banned the demonstration and hinted they were ready to impose a curfew in the capital to stop it going ahead.

#### Jewish settlers plan Biblical 'Disneyland'

ALLON, West Bank (R) - Israeli settlers, ignoring Israel's accord with the PLO, opened a tourist attraction they hope will be the first stage in a Biblical "disneyland" in the West Bank. "We want to build a Disneyland of the Bible at the first place you can see Jerusalem coming from Jericho," said Eli Cohen, head of the rural settlements division of the World Zionist Organisation. "It does not matter which way the politics go. This is a rich source of Jewish heritage." The site. in the heart of the land the PLO wants to turn into a Palestinian state, is an attempt to recreate the lifestyle of the Israel and abroad.

### 2 wounded in Turkish bus station bombs

ISTANBUL (R) — Two people were slightly woonded when four bombs went off in an Istanbul bus station late Tuesday and early Wednesday, the semi-official Anatolian News Agency said. Police said they did not know who was responsible for the attack on Harem Bus Station. There have been at least eight bomh attacks on crowded tourist sites and municipal buildings in Turkey over the last few months. Some of the explosions have been hlamed on the separatist Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), which has threatened to bring its 10-year-old fight for control of southeast Turkey to the country's western touristic spots.

### Manager of Algerian company killed

TUNIS (R) — The general manager of an Algerian stateowned company was found assassinated inside his car in Algiers, the official Algerian News Agency (APS) said. APS, monitored in Tunis, quoted security sonrces as saying Abdennour Naceri was found slain near the headquarters of the clothes factory where he worked in southeast Algiers. It said he apparently was the first senior manager to be killed in nearly 30 months of civil strife in Algeria between security forces and Islamic militants. More than 3,600 people, mostly Muslim militants and members of security forces, have been killed in political violence since January 1992 when an army-backed council concelled a general election which the Islamic Salvation Front was poised to win. In a separate incident, gunmen abducted and killed Algerian lawyer Belghoul Saadi from his home and dumped his mutilated body nearby, the Algerian daily El Watan reported Tuesday.

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### 1st damages for Kuwait invasion to be approved

GENEVA (R) -- The first financial compensation to vic-tims of Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait is likely to be approved at the United Nations this week, with payment of \$3.0 million in claims, U.N. officials

But the U.N. Compensation Commission may have probleans coming up with further money, since it could only fund total claims worth billions of dollars if Iraqi sales were resemed, they said. mion's governing

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ccuncil opened a four-day meeting Tuesday which is due to discuss the funding shortfall and approve landmark claims worth \$2.7 million from 1,116 victims in 18 countries, U.N. officials and Western diplomats said

"We consider this very symbolic, as this is the most sensiterms - claims for death of a

By Ashraf Found

ADEN - At a tender age

when most children have fun

playing at soldiers, Amar

Abdul Hadi fought in an

adults' war and came face to

face with death.

Abdul Hadi, 13, watched in

agony as his brother Moham-

nad died on the battlefield.

"My brother died... I gave

him water, I shook him, but

there was nothing. He was

dead," he said, carrying an assault rifle more than half his

neight. Mohammad was 19.

Abdul Hadi is among the

youngest combatants to fight

in the civil war ravaging this

Disoriented, shellshocked

and with no sense of time, he

said in a monotone voice that

he had been sent to the front

try of desert and mountain.

south Arabian penins

relative or for serious personal mjury," Carlos Alzamora, the body's executive secretary, told Reuters.

becomes very important," be said before the talks began. The first instalment is part of 5.000 claims from people, mostly Jordanians and Knwaitis, who were injured or lost a parent, child or a spouse as a result of Baghdad's 1990-

91 invasion and occupation. Each individual is entitled to \$2,500 in compensation, while families may receive a maxant of \$10,000. The money will be distributed by govern-

"It is a nice landmark," a Western diplomat said. "In a relatively short period of time we have moved from ground zero to a process which has began to decide and pay some

only the night before his first taste of battle.

May 4, pits the formerly Marx-

ist and secular south against the more traditional and tribal

north. The authorities in the

south have announced their secession from united Yemen,

Abdul Hadi, a southern

Yemeni, went willingly to war,

but many boys are press-

ganged into the conflict.

Residents in the southern

stronghold of Aden say milit-

ary roadblocks snatch young

men from passing cars and send them to the front where

they get a gun, a couple of annumition clips but no hel-

mets. boots or military gear.

Abdul Hadi said he had re-

ceived four weeks of military

training before being sent to

fight northern forces for a large

and strategically-placed army

which merged in 1990.

The conflict, which began on

But commission officials are

worried about how they can pay out the next batch of individual claims, worth \$150 million, which the council will be The question of funds now asked to approve next Octo-

> These are the first claims from workers forced to flee or from individuals who claim damages of up to \$100,000. The commission, which has received claims worth \$81 bil-

lion so far, expects the total to double, with corporate and government claims still being its only sources of funding

are voluntary contributions from governments such as Sandi Arabia and the United States, as well as part of frozen Tracti assets. A Turkish-Iraqi plan to flush

ont an idle oil pipeline between the two countries has worried the commission particularly, resolutions.

war, faces mass starvation unless donors increase food aid to two million needy southerners, international aid ageocies

Borders).

South Sudan has suffered Addressing a joint news con-

eenage soldiers swell ranks in Yemen kilometres northeast of Aden

> Military police caught them as they entered the city and sent them back to the front. One argued: "We are just going back to get some ten and we will return."

> Io Aden, one young man front)? They have not caught me yet."

why he was not fighting: "I will go when I'm needed. They still

fighting started said: "There is a general feeling of passiveness

"Many people feel this is not

their war. They see it as just a political struggle between the two parties vying for power and not a north-south civil War.

Beidh from the south against the north's General People's Congress of President Ali Abdullah Saleh. "We do not like the YSP very much," said a southern

"But as the Arab saying goes 'me and my brother against my cousin, me and my cousin against a stranger." Before Abdul Hadi quietly

sneaked out of the hospital to return to his family in Aden, he said he would not tell his parents that Mohammad had

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Tel: 773111-19

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swelfleb, Tel. \$10740

# Armenk 771331.

824328. Tcl. \$11295

Bulletin supplied by the Department of

Hot weather conditions will prevail with winds northwesterly moderate. In

25 / 47 21 /40

### A few hours later, most of

He said 120 infantry soldiers had been sent from the mountains at dawn to fight for the

base at Al Auad, north of

Aden.

his unit of sarong-clad men wearing slippers or flip-flop sandals was wiped out.
"They all died. My brother

died. There were bodies everywhere," Abdul Hadi said later at Ibn Khaldoun Hospital at Lahj, 23 kilometres north of Aden, where he, and another young boy helped take two wounded soldiers.

Abdul Hadi echoed a claim made by most southern soldiers at the front. He said northern troops "are not scared. We fire but they keep coming. They are drugged."
Soldiers on both sides chew

the narcotic qat, use of which is a custom in Yemen.

In the first five hours of fighting at Al Anad on May 19, some 40 wounded southerners were taken to Ibu Khaldous. Many more were taken from this and other fronts to Aden

British-educated physician: Iman Al Naguib, who heads the 208 bed hospital, said she had received 19 dead and 408 wounded since the war began. Many who fall in battle are often buried immediately or taken straight to their families.

Aden has called for a general mobilisation of a reservist force which was almost double the size of the 27,500-man regular army before the unity. It has also opened its

weapons arsenal and given many civilians assault rifles to fight but some just run away when they hear their first in-

coming shells. On aoother front, 55

#### 10 young panic-stricken volunteers forced their way into a pickup truck going to Aden when porthern rockets landed nearby.

said: "Why should I go (to the

Another said when asked

do not need me." Ao opposition politician stranded in Aden when the

on both sides (north and

The conflict pits the powerful Yemen Socialist Party of Vice-President Ali Saleh Al

volunteer army track driver.

"I'll say he was wounded or captured or something," he

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PROG	FRAMME TWO
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19:00	News in French
19:15	
24	onde Fantastique Des Animano
10.70	News in Hebrew
(3:34	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Da Beat's On
21:10	Bony
41-18	Boov
4	News In English
22.00	Feature film
i	PRAYER TIMES
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### CHURCHES

lies of God Church, Tel. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590, Church of the Annunciation Tel. De is Salle Church Tel. 66(757)
Terraspeta Church Tel: 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541. Anglican Church Tel. 63085), Tel.

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### on Catholic Church Tcl. on Orthodox Church Tcl. im Church Tci. 771751. International Church Tci. elical Latheran Church Tel:

russn-speaking Ryangelical Cou-pution Tel. 684195 Church of Jenus Christ of Latter-Saints Tel. 654932 Vazarene Tel.675691. Real Local Church in Am-

### WEATHER

# Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 36, Aqaba 42, Humidity readings: Amman 9 per cent. Aqaba 20 per cent.

#### **EMERGENCIES USEFUL TELEPHONE**

AMMAN: Dr. Adnan Zaghloui Dr. Fakher Belbeisi 661912 778334 - 637055 - 623672 - 636730 - 644945 - 637660 uni pharmacy

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**NIGHT DUTY** 

### Civil Defence Department ... . 661111

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Amman Municipality
Complaints
Telephone Information (directory assistance) Central Amman Telephone Repairs ......
Abdali Telephone Repairs ..... . 623101 Jordan Electricity Authority ... 815615 RJ Flight Information ...... 18-53241 Oucen Alia Intl. Airport..... 08-53201

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Hussein Medical Centre ..... 81381393 Khahdi Maternity, J. Amn... 64281/6 Akileh Maternity, J. Amn... 64241/2 Jahal Amman Maternity ..... 642362 Al-Ahli, Abdeli ... - 664164/6 ZARQA:
Zarqa Giovi, Hospital ... (10)981323
Zarqa National Hespital ... (10)981323
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Ibn Sina Hospital ... (10)986732
Al Hiura Medem Hospital ... (10)986732 Princess Basma Hospital ... 1021275555 Greek Catholic Hospital (102/27275 Ibn Al Nafees Hospital 102/247100 Princess Haya Hospital . 103(3):4111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

### QUEEN ALIA

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information depart-ment at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53:200-5, where it should always be verified. ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) Jeddah (add) (RJ)
New Delhi (RJ) 10:30 11:00 11:00 ..... Frankfurt (RJ) .... Jeddah (add) (RJ)

Bangkok, Calcutta (RI)
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#### **JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDER** 11:40 Sharqah (AA

..... Amsterdam (KL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

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Other Flights (Terminal 2)

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r Flights (Yerminal 2)	Onion (dry)	
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62:25 ..... Amsterdam (KL)

HUAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

# nears completion

By Elia Nasralish Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Nearly 80 per cent of construction work at the Italian governmentfinanced hospital in Karak has been finished, and total completion is expected by the end of 1994, according to Health Department Director in Karak Abdullah Shawaw-

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Dr. Shawawreh told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the Health Ministry hopes the hospital will be operational by the beginning of the second half of 1995, after all the equipment and

facilities have been installed. The first phase of the JD 13 million project will make available 100 beds: later the hospital could be expanded to accommodate 200 beds. sufficiem for the Karak Governorate's needs until the end of the century, said Dr. Sha-

The infrastructure work, which cost JD I million, was provided by the Jordanian government in accordance with an agreement with the

Italian government which is financing the construction and the equipment, added

Dr. Shawawich. Jordan and Italy signed an agreement for the construction of the hospital in 1988. but because of unforescen difficulties and the detay in the infrastructure work, construction of the hospital started only in September

Dr. Shawawreh said the agreement also provided for training Jordanian doctors at Italian hospitals, a programme that is currently in prog-

Following the construction of the hospital, he said, the Health Ministry plans to set up a school adjacent to the hospital for on-the-job training of doctors and nurses in a bid to upgrade medical services on a constant basis

According to Health Ministry sources, Jordan provided the plot of land and laid the civil works for the haspital which included a sewerage system, electricity, water and telephone networks, roads and other relevant services.

## New Karak hospital Heat wave wilts 'Eid holiday

By Natasha Bukhari Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN -- Jurdan went oit holiday for a week for a break well carned, according to a handful of the Kingdom's working community. The post lew months have been exhausting for many in the country: deputies lought to endorse the draft sales tax law, the government fought for its survival, Palestinians tought each other over their different positions vis-a-vis

the peace process. Finally, 'Eid Al Adha arrived accompanied by an unwelcome guest: an unbearable heat wave. Nevertheless, most people were determined to enjoy their free time and nothing could stop

"I toack my family to Jerash where we had a picuic under the cool shade of the frees," Said Mustafa, a garage owner from Sweileli While Mustata was pic-

meking in Jerash, some more fortunate Jordanians were basking on Mediterranean beaches, yet complaining about the somine temperatures. "Cyprus would have been

more lunched it not been so hot," complained Rana, a university student who spent the holidays under the Cyp-

Seventy-three-year-old Ahu Alimad, who sold cooked corn from his streetside cart in Jabal Hussein said that this 'Fid was less rewarding than the last one

"People preferred to nibble on semething that would cool them off, mostly regeream. I did manage to sell some corn cobs at night when it was confer, but all in all, it was much worse than last 'Eid," he said, thanking God Almighty for his bliss In Jabal Hussein, a young

man selling fresh hommos muttered something under his breath anguly. Asked why he was upset. Ghazi answered that "those fancy car owners" try to humiliate sample people tike himself. "I ant amply selling this staff; I and not asking for charity," he said explaining that some people stop their cars to buy his produce and try to give him more money than it is worth, "as if I am a beggar,"

"This 'End was emotionally

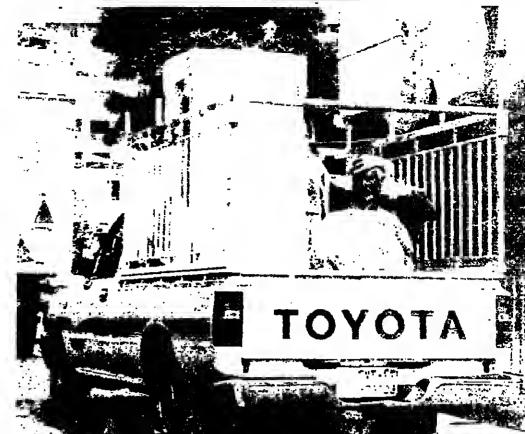
charged," said a PLO offi-cial. He said that for the first time in 27 years, Palestinians were hoping to celebrate. Eid Al Adha in Gaza and Jericho with a sense of freedom, but were prevented from doing

"How can our people feel free to celebrate with the ongoing bloody confrontations between Palestituans and Israelis?" he said.

Heat of no heat, Amman's streets were especially crowded at night; most perple preferred to gu for walks at night after a busy day of visiting family and friends. Traffic was heavily congested as families drove around the streets of the capital before ending another day of celebration.

But despite the holiday many Jurdamans expressed a serve of restlessness.

Even when we are not working, our minds are, said Raja, a ceper market owner in Swenes adding that teeding a family of right was no easy task. "I special me nights and days thinking about how I am going to severe a decent living for my wife and children," he said.



An Amman cities a scened to know what was in store for this year's 'Eld Al Adha, as he watches over his fattened up shaep and his newlypurchased refrigerator. Valaperatures sourced a 34 C during the hobiday rapid to by Rana (1...

### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### King receives cables

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday received cables of good wishes on Jordan's 48th independence anniversary from Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, senior government officials and high ranking army officers. The King also received cables from heads of departments, professional union officials and various private and public organisations in Jordan. In addition, King Hussein received cables of good wishes from heads of state of Arab and foreign nations.

Qatar Airways to start Amman-Doha route

AMMAN (J.T.) — Qatar Airways, the national Qatari airline, will launch its direct Amman-Doha route Friday, May 27, in accordance with a recent agreement signed between the civil aviation authorities in Jordan and Qatar. The Qatari airline, which launched its inaugural flights aboard Air Bus Industrie aircraft tast January, has already established permanent routes through out the Gulf states and plans to open routes to Damascus, Beirut, Cairu and Khartoum

### **WHAT'S GOING ON**

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

#### FILM

Film entitled "The Candidate" at the American Center on Thursday at 5:00 p.m. 1110

### FIELD TRIP

to Al Moura region, some & kilometres to the north of Amman, organised hy the Friends of Archaeology. Departure will be on Friday from the Amra Hotel parking lot at 9:00 a.m. by bus or private

#### EXHIBITIONS

- Exhibition of paintings by 20 Jordanian and Iraqi artists (including Widad Orfali, Hussein Da'seh, Waddab Al Ward, Adnan Al Hilu and Mahmoud Hussein) al Orfali Art Gallery in Umm Uthaina (Tel. 826932).
- # Exhibition by 46 artists entitled "file, Bonjour Monsieur La Fotaine" at the French Cultural Centre.
- Exhibition of water colour paintings by artist Itab fireib and another exhibition of cera-mics by Sajida Al Mashaiki at Ain Art Gallery in Wadi Saqra (Tel. 644451, 652823). \* Exhibition by artist Helmi El-Touni at Balad-
- # Art exhibition by five Egyptian artists at Darat Al Fonun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing "permanent" exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists [Tel. 643251/2). such couples.

# Government plans to introduce draft law requiring pre-marriage blood tests

By Elia Nasrallah and Rana Husseini Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - The government intends to introduce a draft law soon requiring couples planning to marry to take blood tests before their nuptials to determine if either partner suffers from any hlood disease and other genetic problem that could result in their children being born with congenital malformation or retardation, Health Minister Abdul Rahim Malhas announced recently.

"It is nnt a measure designed to prevent people from getting married, but rather a measure lo alert people to the possibilities of bearing children with congenital defects and also to the dangers of contracting sexually transmitted diseases," said Dr. Malhas.

According to sociologist Sabri Rheihat, in Jordanian society, where intermarriages between relatives are nor uncommon, the government has recognised the need to inform the public of the potential risks to the offspring of

'The concept of traditional intermarriage is deeply rooted in the Jordanian society, and it is commonplace for social and economic reasons," Dr. Rheihat said,

He told the Jordan Times that this type of marriage in Jordan is similar to other Arab societies and aims at maintaining solidarity, minimising costs, and most important, preserving the family's real estate and properties.

"In Jordan, only the affluent could marry outsiders as their social status and wealth make their marriage both possible and rational,

According to Dr. Malhas, no proper survey has been conducted in the Kingdom to determine the causes of congenital malformation or retardation. The minister cited intermarriage and blood diseases as two major factors that could result in the delivery of disabled children.

A recent study conducted by the Ministry of Health released in April, revealed that at least 750 individuals cuffer from the thalassemia, a hereditary disease which causes deficiency in hemoglobin.
"This disease, along with many other blood diseases, if detected by a blood test. would prevent future disappointments," the health minister said.

Other important communicable diseases that could be detected by the proposed blood tests are sexually transmitted diseases and the AIDS (Aquited Immune Deficiency Syndrome) virus. According to a Ministry of Health report on Dec. 1, 1443, Jordan has 95 reported cases of AIDS.

Dr. Malhas said surveys were conducted in Lebanon and in Europe with results confirming that intermarriages among close reletives constitute one of the main factors of children born with birth defects: · Reuters reported Friday

that Lebanon passed a law requiring couples to take oremarriage blood tests. The law Supplicated literal of couples man ry without toking the tests. they will be fined.

Dr. Malhas called on the public to comprehend that at least 10 per cent of Jordan's population currently suffers

from some type of disability, adding that many such disabilities could be prevented by stopping the practice of intermarriage and, in cases where the tests find a communicable disease in either partner, undergoing proper medical treatments to rid the person of the disease prior to mar-

Minister of Social Development Mohammad Sgour welcomed the health ministry's plan, adding that his own ministry plans to conduct awareness eampaigns to explain the advantages of undergoing the blood

"The ministry bas experienced some cases in the past in which parents of handicapped children have said that hee woold have taken a different course bad they known that their child would be born disabled and they could have prevented that Scour told the Jordan Times.

He added that these tests are important because in many cases not only the first child would be disabled, but his or her siolings as well.

"In the initial stages, 27 tests do not completely prevent intermarriages, at least agit is a start, and we would be all happy to have a 10 per cent at reduction in disabilities at early stages," the minister

The Ministry of Health in also enlisted the help and inc approval of the Office of the ?. Chief Islamic Justice in Am- acman concerning regulations rei before going ahead with the ob-move. Dr. Mulhas said, 202 adding that a final agreement of has not yet been reached.

Couples planning to marry will be required to obtain a certificate showing the results of the clood tests from the Ministry of Health. The cerificate will determine what ided of birth defects (physical and michael the orispring of the the couple might be born, with and any other blood, disasses either partner might of bave. Dr. histors said. have, Dr. Malhas said.

According in Dr. Rheihat, Thi "with: we need to do is tomake people aware of the reality and facts, and for : them to understand the outcomes and to encourage them to undurgo the blood lests."

### Israeli warplanes attack

(Continued from page 1) patrol detected movement,

said a U.N. officer in the A tank fired two cannoo rounds, killing Mansout, said

the officer of the Finnish hattalion of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). He spoke on condition of anonymity.
Taibeh, about 6 kilometres west of Israel's northern

Galilee panhandle, is policed by UNIFIL's Finnish barralion. The village sits on the edge of the eastern sector of an enclave Israel occupies in win in a squar lgenan lawyr k his mutlated by sourhern Lebanon as a 'security zone" to shield its northern rowns from crossborder guerrilla attacks.

Around the market town of Nabativeh just south of lqlim Al Tuffah and north of Taibeh, Israeli troops fired incendiary shells at corn fields and olive groves start-

ing fires. The Israelis apparently vanted to elear a bush near their outposts which could be used by guerrillas to infiltrate into the security zone.

A firefighter was wounded by shrapnel as he battled a blaze at the abandoned Lebanese army barracks out-

rendering to police on Monday saying he was innocent.

sentence. It was not im-However, the trial of the seven suspects is the first of

eastern Bekaa valley. Israeli officials said they

was shot down over south Lebanon in October 1986.

nounced the "terrorist abduction" of Mr. Dirani and indicated the kidnapping could hurt the Middle East peace Syrian Foreign Minister

Farouk Al Sharaa urged the United States and Russia, cosponsors of the Arab-Israeli peace talks, to condemn the weekend Israeli commando operation in eastern Lebanon. It was the first official Syrian comment on the raid.

Mr. Sharaa, during a meeting with Russian presidential envoy Viktor Posuvalyuk, demanued that Russia and the United States, "condemn Israel's arrogant policies and stands, especially the latest terrorist abduction carried out by Israel inside Lebanese terri-

### Lebanon tries 7

will go on trial Thursday. He was one of three men sentenced to life imprisonment in absentia for the killing earlier this month. He will be tried again after sur-

Another of the three, Bassem Mohammad Farkh was found in a Beirut jail this week serving a drug dealing medialely known if he would also be tried a second time.

side Nabatiyeh.

Shiite guernlla leuder Mustafa Dirani was seized by helicopter-borne Israeli commandos from his house in the

wanted Mr. Dirani for interrogation on the fate of Israeli airman Ron Arad, who has been missing since his plane Syria on Wednesday de-

tory," said SANA

#### suspected killers of a foreign (Continued from page 1) envoy to take place in Beirut with full publicity and press

coverage since the civil war. In Wednesday's hearing. the court rejected a defence plea that it was not competent to try the case, ruling that it was because the killing of Mr. Maayteh was a threat to Lebanon's security.

The defence claimed most of the prosecution evidence was obtained by torture and demanded that it be disallowed. The prosecution denied the allegation.

The court adjourned until

### Sanaa eases offensive

(Continued from page 1) political dialogue" as the war

was about to enter its fourth week.

was "very concerned by the situation in Yemen. Northern and southern forces have been at war for three weeks but the north-

erners have failed to fulfil their original hopes of a quick and easy victory. They have pushed the southerners back into an incomplete semicircle around Aden with a radies of between 3tt and 6tt kilometres but in the past week

they have not made much more progress towards the The northern army is also moving east towards the southern-controlled provinces of Hadramaw and Mahrah, which they cut off from the

Aden enclave early in the fighting. About 500 northerners have been killed and 1,700 wounded since the war began, a source close to the government said. Mr. Iryani said the main

contact in the negotiations with the southerners was Salem Saleh Mohammad, one of the YSP's representatives nn n presidential council which nominally ruled Yemen until Mr. Beidh announced last week that the south was going its own way. Mr. Beidh named Salem

Saleh as a member of his nwn hreakaway presidential council based in Aden hut the politician, who is now in London, has not said whether he accepts the post or not.

"He was asked to come to Aden and he relused," Mr. Iryani said.

Mr. Iryani, who is very close tn Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, said the talks between Sanan and YSP moderates had made progress on same points.

"At one stage they said they lery arrives in Abyan (northeast of Adent we will stop were willing to suspend the

(secessionist) actions they declared... What's important is that they are ready to negociate

in the framework of unity," he He said the United States But Sanaa was unsure what authority the moderates have to talk and continued to see Mr. Beidh and 15 other YSP leaders as criminals who

should either face trial or flee "I don't know if they are talking personally or with the backing of the YSP politburo,"

he said. He said the purpose of pardoning all secessionists except Mr. Beidh and the 15 was to answer objections that by punishing them victorious northerners would create longterm antagonism in some

southern areas. Sanaa announced the amnesty on Monday evening and twinned it with arrest warrants against the 16 for rebellion, mutiny, violating the constitution and other serious

"If it leads to the YSP split-

ting then well and good. But it was not ainted at that," Mr. The snuth said on Saturday it was ending the 1990 union of

traditionalist north Yemen and

formerly Marxist south Ye-

Mr. Irvani said the main ntilitary obstacle to an advance nn Aden was that southern forces still controlled parts of Lahj Province northeast of the city. "The elfort right now is to climinate remnants of the apposition there. You can't enter Aden before Lahj is totally safe. It would be extremely dangerous" he said.

The next military step would be in break the defences around Aden and neutralise Aden airport, which the south's superior air force is using to harass the advancing northernets.

When our long-range artil-

using musiles (gains) Aden airpuri recause the artillery is more accurate," Mr. Iryani

A northern missile apparent-

ly aimed at the airport hit a

said.

house nearby early on Sunday. killing eight people. On the castern front, the main obstacle was the distance and the strain this put on

northern army supply lines, he Meanwhile, hundreds of mourners Wednesday thronged the funeral of victims of a rocket attack on the northem Yemeni capital, vowing to fight on until the southern

separatists are defeated. The funeral was for aine of the 13 people who died when a missile crashed on a block of mud-and-stone houses in Sanaa Monday night. Four were buried in private cere-

Men in traditional robes and kaffiyehs raised the dead high above their heads as the procession flowed toward the Khozenii cemetery in the centre of the capital. The bodies were carried on ambulance stretchers, including one so

timy it fit in two hands. This criminal massaere will not stop the penple," said Flussein At Sayaghy."Quite the opposite, it will increase their determination to clean the Yemeni land from the ugly and criminal dirty bodies" of the secessionist southern lead-

"We will light and fight and fight and fight until we gain our freedom." added Mr. Savaghy, a government-employed peronautical engineer.

But an Yemeni minister vowed Tuesday that the north would not attack Aden with Soud surface-ta-surface missiles to avenge the artaclis on

reporters. Mr. Itvani acknowledged that the north had fired three missiles with a shorter tange than the Szuds.

"I assute you that this will not happen." Mr. Iryani tuld

### PROJECT MANAGER

### BANK SETTLEMENT PLAN - JORDAN



The airlines operating in Jordan including Royal Jordanian are completing a feasibility study to implement the BSP in Jordan: A scheme to organise the remittances of Travel Agency ticket sales to the airlines. through a dearing bank.

Initially the post will be daily part time (half day) pending the approval of a the feasibility study towards the end of 1994. Thereafter and subject to 3 confirmation by the BSP Steering Panel, the post will be confirmed as full

Candidates applying to this post should have the lollowing:

- 1. A minimum of 15 years experience in airline sales and marketing, ‡ finance of travel agency automation, 10 years of which must be in the Jordan market.
- 2. Attended relevant IATA Sales and Ticketing courses.
- 3. Adequate knowledge of IATA Agency Procedures and Resolutions and BSP procedures.
- 4. Knowledge of airline ticketing and/or travel agency accounting procedures and ability to review computerised reports 5. Excellent command of the English language both written and spokers.
- 6. Good relations with the airlines and travel agents in Jordan
- 7. A high personal reputation and standing and smart obysical appear-

Details of salaries and benefits will be provided after the initial selection: Written applications including curriculum vitae and references should be

received by June 9 to the following address: Chairman BSP Feasibility Study Panel

c/o Information Systems & Services Dept. P.C.Sox 302

Amman - Jordan

habits. For example, if we want our drivers to respect the stop

sign, it is not enough to explain its meaning and to demonstrate in theory how to obey it. What we wish instead is for the motorist to practice it in his/her actual daily trips. If after we

preach about the stop sign on the radio and TV we put a

policeman next to a stop sign to make people observe it every

time they come to it, for say a couple of months, stopping at a

stop sign then becomes a habit. The procedure is simple. Let's

begin from the start with a grace period in which people who

do not stop at the sign are stopped by the policeman and

asked to go back, come to a full stop in front of it, then proceed. If we do this long enough, the idea sinks in and

becomes behaviour. I am not saying that we ought to have a

### By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubeh

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### Challenge before commission

THE 17TH session of the ministerial meeting of the Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (ESCWA), due to start in Amman on May 29, offers a rare occasion for making a fresh appraisal of the relevance and sense of direction of this U.N. regional body. ESCWA has been around for several years attempting to serve the economic and social needs of 13 countries situated in the Middle East. But by and large, the contributions of this potentially effective regional organisation have yet to withstand the test of time.

Some interested parties contend that the greater portion of the organisation's annual budget goes to cover either bureaucratic expeases or academic studies that do not seem to figure high on the agenda of the area's governments. How to change ESCWA from a talking or studying machine into an action-oriented institution must surely be uppermost on the minds of the ministers who will take part in the forthcoming deliberations.

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Part of the problem of ESCWA is the lack of cooperation and coordination between the member states themselves. There seems to be no way to isolate economic coordination from palifical cooperation; and this issue, which has plagued other regional organisations, including the Arab Cooperation Council, obviously frustrates the course of ESCWA as well.

There are of course other challenges facing ESCWA which we hope could be addressed in the course of the two-day conference. The lizkage between economic development on one hand and human rights and democracy on the other does not seem to have room on the list of priorities of the U.N. body. Unlike the United Nations Tevelopment Programme (UNDP), which has finally accepted the organic relationship between economic progress and pluralistic democracy, ESCWA has yet to yield to this logic in pursuit of its economic and social goals for the region. We believe that there is already international consensus on this point as evidenced by the deliberations and conclusions of last year's World Conference on Human Rights held in Vienna. The United Nations General Assembly had endorsed the recommendations of the Vienna conference on human rights, and therefore there is every reason for ESCWA to apply this new perspective and start working also on the development of democracy in the region as an integral part of the chain of development. The least that the peoples of this region can expect in this context is to have ESCWA service, in addition to its formal responsibilities, the functions of the U.N. Centre of Human Rights till the centre is able to have its own regional office.

IBRAHIM AL Absi, a columnist in Al Ra'l, criticised the Arab League for failing to rally to end the conflict in Yemen and for showing little interest in what is happening there between the northerners and the southerners, with detriment consequences on the Arab potentials. The Arab League is silent about the continued sanctions against Libya and Iraq and Western hostile attitudes towards Sudan and the Palestimians, said the writer. Similarly, the Arab League stood arm folded during the civil war in Lebanon and the foreign intervention in Somalia, and has showed no concern at all about Israel's adbuction of Mustafa Dirani, head of a Lebanese resistance group, said the writer. It is the deep differences and conflicting views among Arab states, which rendered this institution impotent, said Mr. Absi. He said under the present circumstances, one can conclude that there

Israel's abduction of Mustafa Dirani, as another act of military piracy that can only engender deep hatred and frustration interests, said the writer. There is no doubt, said the writer, that the Israeli act was politically motivated and is connected was aimed at boosting the popularity of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in the face of the extreme Israeli rightist groups' opposition to his moves along the Palestinian track, said the writer. Also mr. Rabin could have aimed at sending a The View from Academia

### The traffic situation: What police can and cannot do? impossible. The idea I am proposing is for the police to help translate the various traffic lessons into daily practice and daily

THERE IS no doubt that the traffic administration's overall performance has improved quite noticeably over the years, especially in the past decade. Its personnel have become not only more reliable but also more efficient, with respect to both their office and field tasks. In the case of a road accident, for example, they arrive on the scene speedily, assess the case intelligently, and execute the paper work (despite the obvious need for computerised processing) fairly smoothly and quickly. Whenever a traffic light breaks down, a policeman shows up at the sight promptly and ably takes over, directing the heavy flow of traffic firmly, precisely and diligently. Indeed the very character of the traffic policeman, which mirrors the character of the police department at large, has undergone a significant change; on the whole, he has become extremely dependable, courteous, and bumane. This (among other

things) we highly appreciate. Furthermore, the alarming increase in the number of road accidents throughout the Kingdom, many of which are either tragically fatal (wasting precious human life) or annoyingly damaging (consuming a great deal of valuable time, effort, and money) ought not to overshadow the commendable work or progress being made by the said administration. Most such accidents are to be blamed more on our society, our present-day culture, and our own citizen, than on the police

department. This we say in all fairness.

Who but the drunken driver himself is to blame for the damage he causes while driving under the influence of alcohol? Who do we blame but the teenager himself, or his irresponsible parents, for reckless driving? Ought not parents make sure that their kids are responsible enough before they buy them a car or let them use or steal theirs? As statistics indicate, the vast majority of accidents are committed, in addition to the two reasons just mentioned, as a result of obnoxiousness (people are simply rude), ignorance (or even total absence) of street ethics, disregard and disrespect for the life and property of others, foolish underestimation of danger, show off, moral laxness, lack of understanding of technology and machinery (these are still relatively new to our society) and of course traffic illiteracy. With the exception of the latter, all are diseases inherited from our social environment. Let's be

What could the traffic department do? Ultimately, very little. The ball is first and foremost (I am arguing) in the citizen's court. We cannot have a policeman sitting next to each and every motorist in this country watching how he/she drives. My own mind is my policeman, and so is my own conscience. I say this with a lot of bitterness, knowing that my society, wittingly or inadvertently, has decided to put its own mind and its own conscience in a freezer. And so naturally, there will continue to be (as an inevitable outcome to this 'mindless," "beartless" motoring) more casualties, more deaths, more damage, more loss, and more accidents. The situation is outrageous. Let's remember that the driver's licence is given on the basis (and it can only be given on this

basis) of mechanical skill not moral competence, and let's remember that the written test can measure, in the best of circumstances, only a small amount of traffic knowledge. This means that many people who are morally corrupt and road illiterate can obtain the licence fairly easily. This is the way it

And yet, the little the traffic administration can do may make a big difference, the difference between life and death or happiness and misery, if we take the traffic business more seriously and apply the crucial rules (though not necessarily all rules) more wisely, firmly, consistently, and rigorously. After all, does not the traffic department assert that among many of its noble aims is "the prevention of road accidents? In other words, its role in this particular respect is, though admittedly secondary, quite vital.

Of course, the traffic administration is doing a good job regarding the said matter. The periodic inspection of vehicles especially prior to and during the winter season (albeit conducted somewhat arbitrarily and haphazardly) is crucial. Many of our careless motorists may not care if the headlights are functioning or if the handbrake is loose. The annual inspection also plays its share in preventing potential tragedies. Additionally, I have even come to understand and appreciate the random, impromptu stopping of vehicles on major and minor roads in and off city limits (which used to annoy me tremendously) in order to check the validity of the driver's licence. The other day I was at a police station in Amman for a total of fifteen minutes. It was night time. In front of the station, a traffic policeman was stopping vehicles and checking licences. During the brief amount of time I was there, he arrested a drunken driver, a driver who did not have a licence, and a motorist who had in the seat next to him a gun for which he had no permit. Until that night the impromptu

stopping of vehicles did not make sense to me; now it does. I am sure that the traffic department is doing a lot more than I have mentioned. However, I wish to seize this opportunity to suggest the following two humble points which, I believe, can improve the traffic situation in the country quite dramatically, if taken seriously into account.

— The traffic police need to play a more effective "advisory," "directional," and "instructive" role than they are doing at present. The job of the policeman is not to ticket or reprimand violators. Rather, it is first to teach and instruct. The image, in the mind of many people in our society of a traffic policeman is still that of an authority figure who is there to scare or punish. I believe that such an image needs to be changed. We want our traffic police to enlighten and guide. I do not (simply) mean that the various police departments ought to educate the citizen about traffic rules. Not exactly, for of course they are already doing this. In coordination with the media, they are spreading important information about safe motoring, information which is undeniably essential.

policeman stand next to every stop sign. No. What I am saying is that we can select key stop signs in the cities and have policemen stand next to them for a specific period of time, whatever we agree is enough. Only after we do this, we ought to begin ticketing violators. We can do the same, either simultaneously or consecutively, with the rest of the traffic — With regard to traffic punitive acts, I agree wholeheartedly with the traffic administration's undeclared policy that one ought not to punish violators all the time, and not to be too strict and ruthless. There has to be a degree of mercy and forgiveness. This I truly admire. It is not a good idea to pressure motorists and be indiscriminate. As applied,

and this is a good idea. However, two points need to be stressed here. First, random or seasonal punishment is a bad practice. We ought to be consistent in enforcing the law. Secondly, to go to the extreme and be lax with the law is also equally objectionable.

our traffic laws are for the most part both benign and bumane,

The best approach to the application of the law is to distinguish between serious violations (and enforce the law strictly, consistently, and uncompromisingly with respect to them) and innocent violations (here one can be merciful and forgiving). A good policeman can tell the difference between the former and the latter. For example, if the speed limit is 80 kms on a spacious well-built highway and I cruise at 90 kms, this is not a serious violation. But if I am caught driving at 130 kms, this is reckless. Also, if my car skids on a snowy day and I hit the car in front of me and break a light, this is not serious. But if I am drunk and crash into a car and damage it seriously, I should be put behind bars. I am committing a crime. It is a big mistake to be forgiving with respect to serious violations (I know of a few cases where we bave been unwisely merciful with drunken drivers, dangerous speeders, and cowboy motorists). The irony is that the police are often firm where they ought to be merciful, and vice versa. Our streets will be a lot safer if policeman play a more visible instructional role, and if they ticket discriminately.

By Javier Pérez de Cuéllar

THE ESTABLISHMENT of

the World Commission or

Culture and Development is

a response to a basic require-

ment of a comprehensive

kind since, if we do not wish

to go backwards into the

third millennium, we have to

rethink development. We

have to rethink the very no-

tion of culture. Since it has never been done on a world

scale, we must go more deep-

ly into the links between cul-

ture and development.

Above all, we must put for-

ward new solutions and light

the way to action. In its original sense, de-

velopment signifies unfold-

ing, extension, expansion and

projection beyond the cycle

of work and days. Develop-

ment means becoming some-

thing from what one is; it

means becoming what one

actually is. In other words,

development cannot be re-

duced just to an increase in

material resources. More

than ever, it needs more of

the soul. Quite clearly, for

those who have nothing, the prime objective is still to have

more, but for everyone the

aim is henceforth to live bet-

ter and to live better

together. We must therefore

opt for quality. We must pin

our hopes on sharing and

solidarity.

I think that the internation-

al community should set itself

a common ain, namely, as

the 21st century approaches, to launch a world initiative

for sustainable growth, which could be firmly established only on the basis of cultural

Why not devise a kind of

marshall plan on a worldwide

rai development, thus to

education, but also to cul-

ture: for an increased official

development assistance and a

better allocation of such

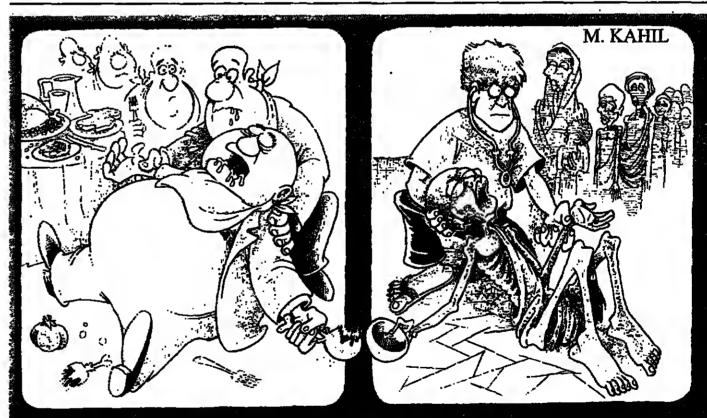
The time has surely come

assistance.

### A Marshall plan for culture, development

What I bave in mind, however, is something that is slightly different and certainly more difficult to implement, though not

Jointly established by UNESCO and the United Nations at the end of 1992, the World Commission on Culture and Development or the Pérez de Cuéllar Commission - named after its chairman, the former U.N. secretary-general -- is an independent body composed of leading figures, including four Nobel Prize winners and a former head of state. The mission is to prepare the first world report ever dedicated to the links between culture and development. Three meetings were already held by the commission to that end: the first one in Paris, the second in Stockholm (Sweden) and the most recent one in San José (Costa Rica), where its members studied the preliminary draft outline of the report. This undertaking has already drawn strong support from the international community. In the article that follows, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar describes his vision of the links between culture and development.



ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

scale for culture and development? The means exist for such decisions to be taken. Michel Camdessus, directorgeneral of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) listed them at the Rio Summit. They call for a reduction in anproductive expenditure, particularly military expendi-ture, in all countries; for a search for optimisation in public expenditure; for the implementation of new pric-ing policies that will take is no need at all for an Arab League which, though set up to bring prosperity to the Arab World, is serving as a catalyst for further splits among Arab states. account of non-economie, environmental and cultural costs; for the introduction of new fiscal policies, and for TAHER AL Adwan, a columnist in Al Dustour, attacked the negotiation of new commercial policies; for the allocation of greater resources to human and cultu-

among the Arab masses. It is a state terrorism act that does not attract any world condemnation, which underlines the fact that the world community continues to do service in Israel and its with the peace process but was carried nut under the pretext of seeking the release of the Israeli pilot whose plane was shot down over Lebanon in 1986. Perhaps the military aggression clear message to the Syrians reminding them of the Israeli military might in a hid to pressure Damascus into accepting the Jewish state's conditions at the negotiating table, added the tional solidarity, should at

last do so. Combating indigence and poverty is, of course, the first priority. The Human De-velopment Report, published by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), stresses that almost 83 per cent of the world's income is today in the hands of the 20 per cent of the wealthiest population. For the 20 per cent of the poorest population, there remains I.4 per cent of the world's income. In the 1960s, the share of the richest population was 70 per cent and that of the poorest 2.3 per cent. An ahyss of this kind cannot be filled, and the exclusion which, in North and South alike, is dividing our societies into two cannot be avercome just by injecting capital, in-frastructure, technology nr expertise. Ready-made, turnkey happiness has been a failure. Today, less than 10 per cent of the world's

when all those industrialised countries that provide official population plays a full part in political, economie, social development assistance and that bave neither exceeded and cultural life. Our commission must nor achieved the objective therefore set itself three aims, closely connected with jointly set by the international community of giving 0.7 each other. These are to per cent of their gross national product (GDP) for internapromoté new patterns of de-

velopment linked with new cultural policies; to promote cultural diversity; and to promote a new cultural dynamic for social change. We are convinced that far from being a mere legacy, culture, today under threat, is the only borizon that we have in common. We can no longer ignore it: our patterns of development based on the continuous expansion of material consumption are neither viable nor infinitely extensible. They not only tear the fabric of cultures but they threaten the biosphere and bence the sur-

vival of homanity. The transition to sustainable development implies a radical change in the styles of development in North and South alike. It cannot succeed unless new patterns of development and new cultural policies come to the fore that follow plural trajectories, do nnt endanger biodiversity, are rooted in cultural diversity and are based on the achievements of science and modern technology. In future, development patterns must therefore be focused on people and foster the development of cultural values instead of barming them.

Where both the natural and

the cultural environments are concerned, the problem today is not so much one of establishing control as of setting limits to it.

The conclusion of a genuine social and moral contract and even of the "natural contract" outlined at Rio calls for a new pact among human beings — a cultural contract. If we really want to prepare for the 21st century, if we want to give a chance to the kind of sustainable buman development based on solidarity to which I have referred, we shall have to change our behaviour radically, and change it soon. We are going to have to recreate a common fund of shared values, with due regard for

our separate identities. Some will say that this is a pipe-dream. My answer to this is that the most important social and historical transformation of our time, along with decolonisation. has undoubtedly been the change in the situation of women and their role in society. Nevertheless, this cultural revolution, which is nowhere near completion, was not in the manifestos of any of the political parties: It has forced itself upon them. This

unheaval has come about collectively, anonymously and in the course of everday life. It has been and will be brought about by women themselves, and this is also true of the current demographic transi-

The cards of the 21st century are being shuffled before our eyes. Suffice it to mention the scientific and technological revolution, the irruption of the worldwide communication society, the globalisation of the economy, the political upheavals and the cross currents of global integration and national disintegration. Our universe is franght with perils and uncertainties, and yet rich in new potential.

The technological and economic revolution is thus challenging one of the cornerstones of industrial society labour. The massive use of information technologies and the rise in productivity that are features of contemporary societies foreshadow unprecedented upheavals, which call for a radical review of traditional development, cultural, educational and training policies. The economic growth without creation

of jobs, an universal phe-

nomenon which was under-lined by the UNDP, represents one of its most worrisome aspects. Started about 20 years ago and expanding ever since, it does not affect only the North, but also the South, which is already hardly hit by cultural exclusion, dualism, unemployment and

marginalisation. At a time of increasingly acute intercultural conflicts and expanding political freedoms, peace and democracy constitute another global challenge. The culture of peace, democracy and human rights constitutes an entity that is clearly indivisible, just like civil and political rights and economic, social and )1 cultural rights. The reason 332 why democracy is becoming a 1.2 central issue today is that only through democratic dialogue can original and varied '61 combinations come about be- 1 6 tween modernity and cul- 01 tures, culminating in new de- nd velopment models and new cultural policies. To achieve im this, we must pool, and also 5d reappropriate, the wide 50 range of cultural experiences ,... and itineraries through open mi political debate. For culture is also a way of enabling coveryone to make a personal choice, to reject any form of subservience, and to prefer reflection to reflexes.

A bridge must be built eq between the visionary and eq the decision-maker, between in seeing and foreseeing, between creators and econom- Eq. ists. This will enable us to lay the foundations of an agenda for culture and development that will be complementary to the Agenda 21, adopted in Rio. Such an agenda, included in our report, will it comprise not only the con- hu crete programmatic and a nil practical plan of action provided for in our mandate, but on also reform proposals and recommendations on arrangements for follow-up, financing and implementation.

To this purpose, our commission has associated with its work, in a logic of dialogue, all the parties concerned: leading figures, creative artists, intellectuals, development experts. It needs, X however, the support of all, & since its work is financed -- 722 like the work of the Brundt- uni land, Brandt or the South 12 Commissions - by voluntary financial contributions.

As André Malraux said. 18 the world of culture "is not 50 one of immortality; it is one of metamorphosis." Far from being an obstacle to modernisation, culture is the key R to development and its borizon — since development en- M compasses all the wealth of human experience. Emerson oc nnce said: "Hitch your wagon

The writer is former U.N. ig secretary-general and president of the World Commission on Culture and Develop-

## **Autobiography Of A Young Film** Critic — a rich material for analysts

By Mohammad Mashariga

A NEWLY published book entitled Autobiography of Of A Young Film Critic is expected to trigger a wide-scale controversy within the literary and artistic community in Jordan, as well as among historians and sociologists. The book, hy Hassan Abu Ghanimeh, is a mixture of autobiography blended with contemporary

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Critics might differ over the artistic and scientific value of the book and the way it tells events and portrays characters and factual personalities. The book could be considered as a record of the memories of Jordan's urban society and the elements that had their impact on Jordan's social, cultural, political and artistic

Through this daring approach, Ahu Ghanimeh, a long time film critic and editor of Al Ra'i Arabic daily's arts page, could become model for other Jordanian intellectuals to encourage them in turn to write their own autobiographies from a cultural and social perspec-

#### AMMAN CULTURAL PULSE

This is one way that enables writers and researchers to delve into and present a description of the development of the contemporary Jordanian society and its future

So far Jordan's modern history has only been recorded within the framework of political developments that revolved around the founding of the Emirate, and later the Kingdom, of Jordan or the framework of the anthropological study of the "micro-society" in the

country.

The "elite civic society" of Jordan enjoyed recognition only in the light of the services offered to the people and state hy its prominent members. But the majority of the civic society has no recorded history, probably for political reasons, or because it had been opposed to the

On the other hand, the bedouin society and its traditions and customs have been the subject of anthropological research on the part of scholars, sociologists or folklore enthusiasts. As to the Palestinian social sectors within the Jordanian society, they have acquired the attention of Palestinian intellectuals whose main study centred around the Palestinian people's struggle for survival and for safeguarding their national identity.



#### Hassan Abu Ghanimeh :

As to the other sectors which are also components of the Jordanian society, like the Syrians and the Circussians, they were mentioned in Jordan's social history as mere cultural or folkloric elements or symbols of tradesmen or artisans.

In his book, Ahu Ghanimeh presented an image of the civic life in northern Jordan citing Al Tal and Ahu Ghanimeh families as examples, pointing out the different services provided by members of these two families to the state at the political, cultural and administrative levels and also as educators over a long period of time dating back to the earlier years of the present century.

Abu Ghanimeh projects the role of his own family in the "Irbid government" led by Ali Khalqi Ali Sharaireh before Prince Abdullah's arrival in Maan (in southern

The book details in particular the period from 1952-65 a period most affected by the political and ideological ideas that have had their impact on the middle class in

Ahu Ghanimeh was keen on pinpointing the struggle and the controversy that was rife within the clans whose members were divided over their support for Egyptian leader Jamal Abdul Nasser or their backing for King Hussein or King Saud.

The writer has also depicted inter-political parties' struggles, thus summing up the history of the political ideologies in Jordan. He writes about his admiration of King Hussein and the Hashemite family in general and his opposition to totalitarian regimes.

The writer's deep convictions seem to have been influenced by publications and books the United States Information Centre offered as gifts to Al Urubah School which the writer's father had founded in Irhid in the earlier years of the 1940s.

In a private interview, Ahu Ghanimeh denied that the 15 or more years he had spent in Syria and Lebanon represented his own version of political opposition or political partisan affiliations. He says he spent these years researching work in the Palestinian media and cinema or Lebanese and Syrian press as a free progressive intellectual opposed to "imperialism" and its

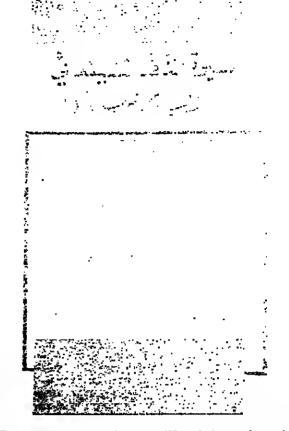
In his book, Abu Ghanimeh depicts also the social developments in Irhid as well as inter-marriages between people of Irbid and Syrian and Palestinian families, noting that local society was deeply influenced by Syrian culture and was deeply affected by or linked to the Palestinians and the Palestine issue.

The reader of this book becomes aware of the social openness in the Irhid society in the 1950s and the 1960s and the social tolerance and open-mindedness among the local communities. The book presents a picture of the co-existence among the various ethnic and religious

But after 1965, the same society regrettably becomes rather conservative and far less tolerant.

women in society at that time, noting that women used to serve as teachers or workers going out with no head cover and sometimes sleeveless to attend social functions or to go to the movies which offered two-day-aweek shows solely for women.

Ahu Ghanimeh was careful to monitor the status of



The writer also depicts the life of domestic maids who, he says, were not isolated from the rest of the family as the situation is today, but acting as assistants to the housewives, living like other members of the family. and remaining there until they got married.

The writer also describes the condition of schools both boys' schools and girls' schools - noting that traditions still did not tolerate co-education at the time. Indeed, the book depicts life in a Jordanian city as a living cell with its people, donning their traditional outfits, costumes and garments, their children at play and the local community open to and influenced by the

various cultural and political trends. The book can rightfully be described as a genuine attempt towards departure from the traditional writings albeit rather journalistic in style and not delving deep into the psychology of the civic society. The book could appear to some readers as a record of clans and the Ahu Ghanimeh and Tal family members and their social

On the whole the book offers the social and cultural researcher a rich material for analysis.

## Stronger British drug law faces many critics

By Paul Harris Reuter

LONDON — Sixties rock stars were renowned for smoking it. American President Bill Clinton tried it and famously didn't inhale. But a new British drug law aims to crack down on the icon of hippy culture — cannabis.

An amendment to the criminal justice hill, currently before parliament and expected to become law in July, will increase the maximum fine for possessing the drug to £2,500 (\$3,700). The fivefold rise is the first for 17 years.

But the move against cannahis use has met unexpected opposition from police and magistrates, who will implement it.

'We don't think it will be particularly effective. There is a danger it could lead to m3re crime as users may commit crimes to pay for their fines," said Fran Edwards, spokeswoman for the Police Federation. which represents police in England and Wales.

Increasingly British police have simply

cautioned people possessing per cent of drug offences were dealt with in this way, compared with two per cent in 1982 and the trend has

been towards lenience. Guidelines to magistrates suggest a fine of £180 (\$270) for possession against a present maximum of £500 (\$750). Rosemary Thomson, chairwoman of the Magistrates' Association, is dismissive of higher fincs.

"It's utter rubbish, so far out of synch with the seriousness of the offence, she said.

"It is not on our agenda," said Ms. Thomson when asked if the new law would cause Magistrates' Association Guidelines on Fines to

The attitude of the magistrates and police may make the increased fines pointless. Police will still caution most cases and magistrates will keep their old guide-

Ironically the drive to discourage the use of cannabis has instead opened a debate about its legalisation.

Mike Goodman, director people who want to legalise cannahis "a real favour".

"Most people involved in the field find cannabis nonproblematic. It gets a clean bill of health compared to heavier drugs," he added. Not everyone agrees.

Conservative Member of Parliament Tim Rathbone. chairman of a Parliamentary Committee on Drug Abuse, told Reuters: "It is very dangerous for the people who use it. It can damage their brains and their bodies.

Cannabis is the most commonly used illegal drug in Britain. A recent survey said that nearly a third of 14 and 15 year-olds had used it. Some experts call for the complete legalisation of all illicit substances. Richard Stevenson, an

economist at Liverpool University, wrote a paper called "winning the war on drugs - to legalise or not? for the Institute of Economic Affairs, a right-wing think tank.

Mr. Stevenson believes

that all drugs should be small amounts of drugs for of the drugs welfare charity legalised, marketed and personal use. In 1992, 51 release, said it had done regulated so that they can be controlled.

"I am prepared to argue that drugs should be as legal as beer. They could be availabe from chemists clearly labelled and unquestionably with a government health warning," he said.

But easy availability could increase the number of users. The idea of buying heroin as casily as a bottle of wine angers Mr. Rathbone. He said that society's experience of alcohol abuse did not recommend making heroin equally obtainable.

"Ready availability bas already made alcohol by far the greatest drug threat. More crimes are committed, more families are split and more work days lost through alcohol," he said. Mr. Rathbone's views are

shared by Steven Green, chairman of the Conservative Family Campaign, a Christian lobbying group. Mr. Green does not see

cunnubis as harmless and believes users will move on to "hurder" drugs like heroin and crack-cocainc.

### Harassment case delivers telling blow to male office ribaldry

By Mariam Isa Reuter

LONDON -The depart ture of three foreign exchange dealers from the U.S. investment hank Goldman Sachs for alleged harassment of a secretary shocked London's conservative financial district and renewed the debate over sexism.

Goldman Sachs — known for its policy of non-sexist staff conduct - said the three men, each reported to carn up to £1 million (\$1.5 million) a year, resigned.

Heated newspaper reports quoted insiders as saying they were forced out after hounding a secretary for sex in response to her innocent request about how to seek promotion.

Until the story broke in late April, action to punish sexual harassment or discrimination in the high-flying square mile known as the "city" — Britain's main financial centre - was virtually unknown.

Female traders are still rare and within the general ribaldry that has become the

city's trademark, recruits of far more and became out" or "get your knickers agree. (panties) off" from male colleagues who have been drinking.

Men in packed dealing rooms gleefully scan soft porn magazines during coffee hreaks and whistle like workers on a huilding site if an attractive woman walks Many British women who

have flourished in this tough environment believe the barriers are not insurmountable. A woman must "give as good as you get" to survive and the onus for change is on her shoulders, they say.
"When I started eight

vears ago I think the main reason I was employed was because I was a woman and not unattractive - 1 make no bones about that," said a woman who heads a foreign exchange desk at a big European bank in London.

The bank initially wanted an attractive woman on its corporate team to woo customers hut as time went on it realised she was capable

must routinely shrug off re- more open about employing marks such as "get your tits women, she said. Others

"In the 1980s it was much more difficult — for a woman to get to the top she had to be a hell of a lot brighter than her average male counterpart," said Rhona O'Connell, a metals analyst at stockbrokers T. Hoare and Company.

"But in the 90s my feeling is that most men probably recognise a bright woman as being a potentially decent manager.

Most agree that aggression is important for both men and women in the frenetic, unforgiving world which became even more competitive after deregulation in 1986 transformed it from a more docile domain largely peopled by old boys from Britain's privileged public schools.

Women have infiltrated along with hard-nosed, more street-wise newcomers hut are still concentrated in less stressful areas such as analysis or corpo-

rate relations. On the dealing desks, 

any weakness spotted in recruits. Women are often at a disadvantage hecause many are less prone to swear or explode in anger and take it personally when it happens to them, female traders say.

"You need to be a particular kind of person to survive in spot desk trading - you have to fight your own hattles and come back with as good as you get if the dealers are being especially rude, crude or obnoxious," said the female exchange dealer.

Horror stories are plenty but the women who have stood the test believe that underneath the all too hrusque exterior, they do have the respect of their male colleagues.

Sexual banter should be ignored or shrugged off and although the more democratic influence of American banks was welcomed. some women said the issue, of what constitutes sexual harassment should not be taken as far as it is in the United States.

# Ancient wrecks inspire hunt for sunken treasure

By Valerie Lee Reuter

KAMPONG BALIK BATU, Malaysia — A stockhroker turned treasure hunter is convinced the Straits of Malacca off Malaysia is a murky graveyard for dozens of treasure-laden shipwrecks.

"There are a number of wrecks in this area," said Dorian Ball in this village 50 kilometres from the west Malaysian town of Malacca. "I think for every mile of

coastline in Malaysia there's a wreck," said Mr. Ball, a Priton who heads Malaysia Historical Salvors SDN BHD, specialising in salvag-

ing sunken treasure. He isn't alone in h's be-

Malaysian authorities recently detained an unregistered trawler for illegally

salvaging porcelain ware from an 18th-century Dutch galleon, which sank off the west coast town of Port Dickson.

Marine police seized cases of china and porcelain ahoard the trawler and arrested 12 men caught diving at the site.

Local press reports said the trawler was financed by wealthy husinessmen from Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia.

Mr. Ball's company, the first officially hired by Malaysia's government to salvage a shipwreck, has also uncovered antique

porcelain and china, but in far larger amounts.

It has retrieved four tonnes of Ching dynasty porcelain over the past four weeks, local media reports said. Mr. Ball said documents

unearthed by the salvage firm from library work showed the merchant vessel, Diana, foundered on the rocks off the Malaccan coastline in 1817.

"Apparently the ship's captain was sick and went ashore, presumably to see a doctor," Mr. Ball said. "She sailed off in the evening and the history books show that she hit a rock out there in the dark because the first mate was steering

the vessel." Mr. Ball, who has been told by Malaysian authorities not to release operational details about the salvage work, said the threemasted vessel was headed for Calcutta loaded with cotton, silk, tea and porcelain from Macau.

"Most of the cargo has rotted away and only the porcelain is left," Mr. Ball said at the recovery site in Tanjong Bidara.

"There's very little left of the ship itself. It isn't like in the movies where you see the shipwreck intact. This is about the biggest piece of the ship there is," he said, picking up a block of dark, rotted wood about two feet (60 cm) in length.

Members of his team of 12 foreign divers take turns being lowered in a metal cage 30 metres (100 ft) to Diana's wreck. The team dives for nine

hours a day, battling a strong undertow and visibility limited to an arm's

The operation has to be completed by the end of May when 64 oil tankers will call at a nearby jetty belonging to national oil company Petronas. There are fears the tankers could drop their 30-tonne anchors on the divers or the treasure

they are trying to salvage. Mr. Ball would not put a value on the porcelain already recovered by his crew. But Malacca Chief Minister Abdul Rahim Tamby Chik said Diana wreck was the biggest find in the region since the 1985

discovery of the Dutch ship Geldermalsen, which yielded the famous Nanking

The Nanking find yielded an estimated \$15 million from an auction by Christies in Amsterdam.

Mr. Abdul Rahim said the items on the Diana were of high quality and also likely to fetch good prices at an auction.

'The fact that the treasures are being salvaged legally, attracting worldwide attention, would create better demand for the items," Mr. Abdul Rahim told the New Straits Times newspaper.

He said there were at least a dozen ships huried in the waters off Malacca.

Malaysian federal authorities have not said what will happen to the recovered treasure but the government will reportedly get 30 per cent of the proceeds of

any auction.

Abdul Aziz Mohammad, who heads a national committee dealing with the salvage of old wrecks, said Malaysia is new to salvage operations and is "looking at (guidelines) covering the whole gamut of operations.

"We are making a study of the guidelines produced hy other countries as we do not have such detailed aspects here."

Mr. Abdul Aziz said the government has issued licences to four companies to salvage wrecks in the country's waters.

Portuguese naus, English schooners, Khmer trading ships, Japanese warships and even submarines - are reported to lie on the bottom of the Malacca Straits - the key shipping lane linking the Indian Ocean and the South China,

Malaysia, together with Indonesia, has set up a committee to salvage antiques from the Flor De La Mar. the flagship of Portugal's. famed Alfonso d'Albuquer que which sank in the Malacca Straits off Sumatra in 1512.

The Flor De La Mar is reputed to have carried billions worth in gold, jewels and artifacts, some plundered from the Malacca sul-

### Leave a light on

37 Jean-Claude Elias

When dealing with advanted technology people have the understandable but unfortunate tendency to lose touch with simple, practical solutions. The more technology gets sophisticated, the more it obscures basic, elementary methods.

The number of tasks one can now perform using a personal computer (PC) has grown to make a virtually limitless list. A very important aspect however of making good use of PCs is realising that certain applications are not worth doing with a PC unless the machine is always powered on, ready to respond immediately.

One should start by reassuring fisers, correcting a commonly found, gross misconception. Leaving a PC on for twelve hours for instance is certainly better for its "health" than switching ! on and off every few minutes. Modern machines, provided they are of good manufacturing quality, are designed to sustain long periods of continuous work.

When 2 PC is switched on, the built-in power supply unit and the hard clisk have to produce a certain "effort," electrically and methanically speaking, in order to reach the required operating level, down from complete rest. Once they do, the complete system stays at a cruising speed that does not put too much stress on it. Actually it is not much different from most machinery warm asserted.

ery: cars, aircraft, factory machines, etc.
In the office, people have made it a habit to leave PCs on all day long, realiring that this was more convenient than constant switching on and off. Home users are still more reluctant to do so. Farily to save energy, reduce the machine's wear and tear, and partly because they

see no real need for that.

Some applications, in other respects very useful, are ignored because their eventual users find them too complicated and too long to activate if they have to power the PC on just for that Let's consider a personal telephone directory for instance. Almost everybody maintains a manually written phone book at home with the names, numbers and sometime addresses of relatives and friends.

A PC based phone book is a very basic software, widely available, inexpensive and easy to use. It keeps



all records handy, tidy, sorted by alphabetical order. Additions, deletions are easily made and of course, search is instant. Should one need it, the PC will also print a hard copy of the phone book. Yet, if one had to switch the computer on, wait for the operating system to boot (be ready), load the phone book programme and then use it, each time one had to look up a number, then I fully agree that the manual system would be incomparably more practical. The secret therefore is in keeping the machine always on, ready to respond.

the machine always on, ready to respond.

Other home applications like answering telephone calls and monitoring central heating or air-conditioning require constantly available computers.

Although modern personal computers are extremely reliable and heavy-duty, they are not designed to work 24 hours a day, like some professional banking systems that are never shut off. At best they can sustain 10 to 14 hours of continuous work. This still means that you can switch your PC on at 8 in the morning and off at 10 at night, which leaves you with a very sufficient margin of

The new, "green" PCs that have been launched this year, go even further. If not used for a few minutes, they automatically go back to what is called a sleeping mode in which they work at a reduced level. They consume less energy while still being switched on, ready to instantly resume work when asked to, without the need to re-boot. Not only electrical energy is saved but wear and tear is also drastically reduced. Theoretically, such PCs could be left on 24 hours a day.

It won't be long before PCs at home, just like refrigerators and telephone systems, become permanently powered on, ready to respond to our needs.

### The face of al eid

By E. Yaghi

I always love al eid, though it involves a lot of work. It seems that the whole world is adorned for the festivities as children dressed in ruffles, ribbons, bow ties and patent leather shoes congregate around the parks and swings to celebrate in their own way those delights they relish. On the holiday eve, last minute shoppers bustle to and fro with bundles purchased from shops open all night. And some last minute customers stop by the neighbourhood cafeteria to get some soda or ice cream and rest for a while on park benches nearby.

and rest for a while on park benches nearby.

By seven a.m. on the first eid day, my house was full of visitors and I, awake since five in the morning had the hot sugarless Arab coffee ready to serve. My three-athome sons spent the last few minutes before the guests arrived glaring threateningly at each other in remembrance of their tripartite war that occurred the night before. After nearly pulling out what was left of my why-mothers get-gray-hair, I painstakingly pleaded with them: "Why are you all mad at each other? You're supposed to be too old for fighting and besides, where's your holiday spirit?"

Like a judge, I listened to their complaints which of course were baseless. Two things were really at the core of the whole affair. The first was that each one never forgave the next younger than himself for being born and the second was because each was ordered to clean his room so that to the unexpected guest who passed by their quarters unawares wouldn't think we kept some kind of captive animals in dens. My sons have this phobia that it is unmanly to lift a finger as far as housework is concerned. My middle son even begged me to iron his clothes after I just finished preparing a special breakfast for him because he woke up at 11. With the saddest most forlor: look on his face he pleaded: "Please, please come and iron my clothes!"

"Can't you see how busy I am? Instead of you helping me clean the house, you want me to waste time ironing for each one of you who wakes up at his leisure. Go do your clothes yourself!"

His expression changed from sadness to utter despair and he retorted with "but you're my mother and its your duty to iron my clothes."

"Yes, I'm your mother, not your slave, there's a difference you know. Instead of you making my work less, you find more chores for me to do."

However, to save my precious time, I finally gave in and ironed his jeans (pure cowhide) and a sport shirt. A little later, his father demanded that his sons clean up their rooms. They, in a state of disbelief that so much should be asked of them, began to clean as if they were moving a mountain which in a way, I guess they were. It

was then that the quarrelling began and I literally was forced to separate them before they acted like uncivilised beasts. To my satisfaction, I curvailed their disagreements until the next day when they were at Cagain. At last, the wild monsters that thrive in each of them subsided and they put off their disagreements until a later time.

After I managed to squeeze lunch in before the second onslaught of guests arrived, the bell rang just as I finished the last of an ocean of dishes. By the screams on the stairs, I knew we were being invaded by the biannual hoard of small monkeys dressed in human skin that accompany their parents, who numbered around seven adults in all, not to mention the creatures that scurried hither and thither so fast no one could count them. Their mission was one of attack and destroy as soon as possible before their elders issued the charished statement I delight to hear most. "Come on gang, let's get mina!"

Now, I love ehildren but only when they act sweet and innocent like, not when they become Godzillas and behave like they have to demolish my some. What really gets me is not the kids, but how their parents suddenly become blind and deaf to all that their children do. They spill tea on the carpets, crush cookies into smithereens, thread their way through every room in the house and stand and scream from the top of our five-story building all the way down to the ground floor. They are thirsty by turn and make repeated visits to the kitchen followed by bathroom, one by one, until even after their parents finally get up and decide to leave. The only time their parents even look the same direction as their children is to sigh in adoration with, "oh, isn" phe/she cute?"

I grit my teeth and try to force a gracious smile as I mumble, "yes, as cute as a killer shark."

At last they left and I made note of the path of destruction such as dusty footprints on that carpet I just washed the day before, black fingerprints on the wall I finally got around to scrubbing, tea stains on the kitchen floor I didn't get around to washing until after midnight and the list goes on and on. It is then that I scrutched my head and wondered why anyone bothers to clean their house before the eld if it is going to get dirtier than it was before.

The last of our visitors on the first day of the beliday left at 11 p.m. that night. What a relief. I thought the day would never end. Actually, I've seriously considered going abroad on these occasions to avoid everything to do with the steady stream of guests that continue to arrive. Meanwhile, my three sons have almost become more civilised towards each other and their sibling rivalry is nearly tamed for a while at least, Happy eid everyone.

### ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuqair

picnic."

# FANTASTIC FACTS THE NAME OF ALLAH

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Once you about the name of Allah in the world languages, you would find that His name consists of

Let's demonstrate (he name of Our Creator in these languages:

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let's chat in an**abic** 

COMMON PHRASES

I beg you.
I beseech you.
I conjure you.
I beg your mercy.
May I crave your indulgation?

Arjook. Ataviessal etayk/claykom. Onesisidek/Onashidokom. Astarhimokom.

May I crave your induspeto?
Attawassid elayiron on totasahaloo.
May I ask you a question?
Hal tasmah kee besu'aal?
Allow me to say a word to you.

The Allow me to say a word to you.

Issue to be an important lakem kalima.

Allow me to smake.

Impahoo kee an odakhin.

Vill you do me a favour to lend me ten dinars?

Vill mad me le marroof we intrident ashrat dananeer?

\*\*: — Flave the kindness to lend me your pen.

This was him kalamak.

\*\* — Be kind enough to give me a glass of water.

This was a glass of water a minel was

— Be kind enough lo give me a glass of water.

Takaram wa'ini ka'san minal'maa.

— regret to disturb you. Imui assif le'iz'aajikom.

इ.इ.इ.क.

### Pipples

A Promen said to an outlior at a literary gathering:
"I've been making my sides achie over your latest

The author was deligned: {Oh, really, "he said, "did you find it very amusing \$\overline{S}\) "No." she replied. "The fall is I took it to bed and fell asleep on top of it."

A London secretary, placing cats in new homes describes to would be adopters the animals' poten-

\*\*\*

One is: "Willing to do light mousework!"

A little girl had been reprimanded by her teacher for untidiness in her hair and dress. But she had spirit.
"My mummy says," she replied, "it's not what I took like that matters, It's what I are!;

\*\*

★ A lady got on a bus with seven children. The conductor asked:

"Are these all yours? Or is it a picnic?"
"They're all mine," came the reply." "And it's no

\*\*\*\*

☆ Little girl watching TV wrestling: "Just look at those two men fighting in their play-pen."

### BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

(1) To what sciences do the following terms belong?

— Isobars

- Dolichocephalic

— Exogamy

Oedipus complex
Titration

\* \* \* :

(2) Who painted these pictures?

— Steam And Speed

— Hope

The Last Of England
The Bath Of Psyche

\* \* \* \* \*

(3) If a monkey is playing with the letters of the word 'even', what are the chances of its arranging them in the proper order at the first attempt?

\* \* \* \* \*

### STRANGE CUSTOMS & TRADITIONS

Gypsies have no specific religion as they adopt the religion of the country in which they live though it is natural that they believe in some inherited myths coming down from their ancestors.

Among their marriage customs take for instance.

Among their marriage customs take, for instance, the Transvaalian gypsy girl who throws a dish under the feet of her fiancé in the presence of the judge. Then she herself collects the broken pieces and carefully preserves them because it is thought that in case they had been lost or damaged, the bond of marriage would have immediately cut off.

In Spain the gypsy men themselves choose the husbands for their daughters and the girl has no right to reject the choice at all. The couple also are not allowed to meet each other before marriage.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **PUZZLES**

(A) DIVIDING THE DIAGRAM

Divide the diagram into four sections of equal size and shape, so that each contains a set of four identical

(B) LADIES, PLEASE!

If a feminine first name is substituted for each dash

If a feminine first name is substituted for each dash below, a common English word can be made in each case.

## Australian stockmen curse, but still wax lyrical

By Michael Perry Reuter

LONGREACH, Australia

— By day they sweat and
curse as their bones crack
and skin blisters, but by
night Australia's stockmen
rest their weary bodies and
praise the harsh and unforgiving land with rhyme and
verse.

Their theatre: A crackling camp fire under a starlit sky or a homestead dinner table, several hours drive from town.

Like their forebears who more than 100 years ago first herded cattle and sheep across Australia's dusty plains, today's stockmen and drovers have a passion for poetry and storytelling.

"Her husband bent above her with cold terror at his heart. The form was still he loved so well, the wan lips would not part and the day in trance she lay, but when the stars smiled down, he heard his name low-whispered and he claimed her still his own. And afterward he spoke his fear: 'Hearts love, if you should dia.""

die."

Bill Rinehart, whose mouth is home to two lonely crooked teeth, grins with pleasure as he recites his favourite Will Ogilvie poem The Riding Of The Rebel around a drovers' camp fire on the road to Longreach, Oueensland.

"Here it's manly to recite poetry," says Rinehart, 64. a drover and poet since his rebellious teenage years.
"It's a way of life. We have been brought up that

Oldtimers like Rinehart sought company from the words of Australia's early poets — Andrew Banjo Paterson, Henry Lawson and Ogilvie — when they first headed west. They penned their own verses to beat the loneliness of the outback.

"When I started poetry there was no television, wireless. We had to entertain ourselves, so we learnt poetry," he says.
Yet while technology has tempered the outback's isolation, young stockmen toiling on the endless plains

of grass and trees still carry

on the bush's literary tradition.

Boss drover Rian Morgan. 25, sits tall in the saddle, a cattleman's hat shading his face and his roughrider boots decorated with a glistening pair of

spurs.

Morgan, 6ft 7 inch (2.3 metres) tall, is the youngest son of a second generation Queensland cattle grazier.

He is the classic stockman.

but is also a man of letters.
Since he first pulled on a pair of riding boots the words of bush poets and storytellers filled his head. In the Morgan home you can't leave the dinner table until you recite a poem.

"We encouraged our children to read poems because we didn't want them to watch television and they have appreciated it," says Rian's mother Margaretta Morgan.

Storytelling is no idle hobby for Rian. Last year while in hospital with a bad back he completed a short-story writing course by correspondence with the University of Queensland.
"When I am droving?

have lot of time to think about stories. I usually carry a small notepad, jot down different scenarios and late at night sit down and write them down," he says during a break in moving 1,000 head of entite from Longreuch to Condamine, a four-month 1,000 kilometres trip.

"I like reading (South African adventure novelist) Wilburt Smith. I think I'd like to do something like that but in Australia," he says. "In two or three yearstime, depending on the droving, I'd like to sat myself up and write."

In recent years bash publishing has beened thanks to advances in dasknep publishing technology, says Laurie Multer, general manager of the Queensland University Press.

"It is probably the most decumented generation we have had in this country," says Muller. "There must be 40,000 to 50,000 bush stories now in print which will never be lost.

"When out in 2 bush camp people either spin yarns or read a beautiful poem that setisfies the soul. I genuinely think it's part of this bloody country.

Emplaining why stockmen, many with little education, love poetry, he says: "Poetry is the hardest to master. To write poetry you don't need any qualifications... Just feelings."

Self publishing has also allowed many people to record their family history and tell previously unwritten stories of Australia's rural heritage, says Marli O'Hanlon, supervisor of the boookshop at the Stockman's Hall of Fame at Longreach.

"I think people are writing more. The interest in Australian history is what is driving it." says O'Hanlon. "We're getting older and leaving our British history behind." The publishing revolution has also given a voice to the unsung aboriginal heroes and heroines of the bush. Muller says aboriginus are great storytellers because of their oral history, with the rhytum of their songs per-

fect for poetry.

Aboriginal drover Herd Wharton taught himself to read and write as a young man herding cattle in Queensland's outback but never put pen to paper despite countries at the re-

hearc.

New we also age of 50 has had his first novel published — Unbranded, a compilation of his experiences on the road.

Wherton says the Australian bush tradition of storytelling comes from aborigines. "Campfire yarns are thousands of years old. Before the days of white settlement all stories were told at night around a campfire," says Wharton,

says Wharton.
Unlike his white mates, his stories are influenced by, his aboriginal stories, echo the struggles of his people and have a hard, cutting political edge. "I have to be me and I am aboriginal. They are not religious but they are spiritual."

### THOUGHTS FOR THIS WEEK

lf you wish to avoid seeing a fool, you must first break your mirror — François Rabelais, French satirist (1494-1553).

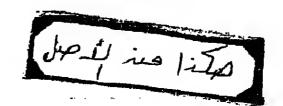
Most of u. probably feel we couldn't be free without newspapers, and the is the real reason we want the newspapers to be free — Edward R. Murrow, American broadcast journalist (1965-1965).

In scandal, as in robbery, the receiver is always as bad as the third — Lord Chesterfield, English author and statement (1604-1775).

Everyhody thinks of changing humanity, and nobody thinks of changing himself — Leo Toistoy, Russian novelist (1828-1916).

There are two ways to slice easily through life, to believe everything or to doubt everything. Both ways save us from thicking — Alfred Horzybski, Polish-American

JTV PROGRAMME NOT RECEIVED



### Tarantino's triumph — sellout to Hollywood?

By John Follain Reuter

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The gas

on, I curvate a property with the start for CANNES, France - The ▼ victory at Cannes of controversial American directos Quentin Tarantino has ruffled feathers at the world's top film festival.

Screen legend Clint Eastwood, himself a controversial anotes as president of the fertimi's 10-member jury, brained aside suggestions that the event had sold our to Hullywood.

but the sight of Tarantino and his Prip Fiction cast, including John Travolta and Stude Willis, wildly

embracing each other at the Golden Palm ecremony sparked worries that Cannes had turned its back on a tradition of rewarding "arty" European or Third World films.

Pulp Fiction, a racy thriller mixing carefree violence and crude humour, is seen by some critics as a typical market oriented Hollywood production at odds with such past winners as The Piano and Farewell My Concubine?

French newspapers Tuesday put the blame squarely on the broad shoulders of Eastwood, saving he had

done his utmost to defend U.S. colours.

مِلْدًا منه اللَّصِل

The daily Le Quotidien said the Golden Palm had heen "stolen or skilfully negotiated, unless the charm of the American 'star system' was the most significant factor in Cannes whether that uf Clint Eastwood himself or of Quentin

Tarantino. Asked whether the violence of Tarantino's Los Angeles boodlums had been considered in the award, Enstwood said he was bound by festival rules not to discuss the prizes.

"It was a democratic de-

Jacob dismissed fears that Hollywood had bought out Cannes, saying the festival

had no tradition to stick to. "We've always had some juries which go for more popular films or for more art films. There's no law,' he said.

cision," be said during the

gala dinner which followed

the Golden Palm ceremony.

"People thought it was ori-

ginal. I can't say how I

Festival director Gilles

'Controversy is good for films. Our aim is to help cinema, so we are in favour of anything which helps discover new talents," Jacob

Film huyers stressed Tarantino was a typical of Hollywood, despite the violent scenes, because of his talent for dialogue and story-telling.

Cannes hasn't turned its back on its vocation because Tarantino's work is a parody of America. It's Americana rather than American and owes a lot to European directors," said Paul Brett uf the British Distributors' Guild, which will have "Pulp Fiction among its titles.

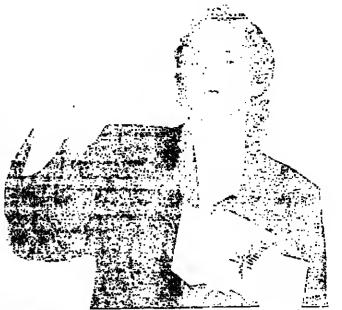
Nor is violence new to the

In 1971, Martin

Scorsese's Taxi Driver won despite controversy over actress Jodie Foster's depiction of a child prostitute. So much blood was spilled in that film that the screen drained to sepia to lessen the effect.

Tarantino himself, who is more successful in Europe than in America, has little time for his detractors.

When a few shouts of disapproval greeted his award Monday evening, he shot back a four-letter word and accompanied it with an obscene gesture.



Harrowing Maori

Quentin Tarassico

## Top Chinese actress still living with adversity

voted. "

By John Foliain  $G_{G^{\prime}(2), G^{\prime}(2)}$ 

CALINES, France - No. Other actions concreting for homocos at une Cannes Film. 🍎 Pozickal Koston olten had lar Him bunned or threatened re- tensorship, but China's Gong Li is accustomed in Edversity.

Her director, awardwhiching Zhang Yimou, his Stayed away from the Freed resort to try and may his meet work Wezhe 170 Live: from Ecijing's

the during soga retraces China a political ephenyals since the Communities took pomenta the 1940s. Its filming coincided with a crackdown by the nuthorities on independent-minded films

"They took measures agoinst filing showing outside China and directors have been blacklisted." Gong 4.5, 28, a cult figure in her homeland and widely estimated abroad, said in a secont interview.

"Of course this affects all of us. Directors are starting

Gr Anii Penna

Agence France Presse

with "Choli Ke Peeche Kya"

Har (What Is Behind The

Stause) - a Bollywood

chambaster see to rustic folk

music that sold 10 million.

Transcone die ochlight die est geher liberer nieb

by hearthree wanted Sub-

hash Card, undered off an

India-wide debute on

observity in thins after it

New Delni Layer wok the

The ottorney, R.K.

Chugh, said his four-year-

old son him diesen him

seute embarrassment by

singing it at a shopping con-

tre to women who accused

him of teaching the swag to

case in court.

 $Jh_{B}$  . . . .

to wormer if they can do this Oscars, was branded a poror that time. Things have got more strict," she said, speaking through an inter-

Asked what China's titm community could do to resist such pressures, she answered: "There isn't any organised lobby. But peopic are worned and should

du more. In April, Beijing author-ities effectively banned seven directors from working in mainland China after they screened films at the

Rotterdam Film Festival. When the government recently banned films made outside China from running for the Flundred Flowers and Golden Rooster Prizes, the country's top film awards, Znang wrote a letter to pro-

Gong Li is among those most affected by such measures, because of the high profile she and her partner Zhang enjoy abroad and because films like To Live are financed by Taiwanbased producers.

Ju Dou, nominated for Best Foreign Film in the

and Judge S.N. Chopra said

it was decent enough for

public consumption in the

But the unspoken in-

nuendo in the blouse num-

ber of 1993 - which be-

came the slogen for road-

side Romeos known as

"eve-leasers" — ser a trend

that has seen film lyrics and

their picturisation get

enough concern in parlia-

ment and outside for the

government to call a mect-

ing to trekle vulgarity in the

movies by tightening cen-

asking what lies behind the

choli. TV star-turned-MP

"Today they are merely

soiship.

The trend aroused

.naughtier and naughtier.

arthodox country.

trait of a backward China and banned.

Raise The Red Lantern. which took the Silver Lion in Venice in 1991, was in timbo untit Berjing finally approved it in 1993.

Born just before the Cultural Revolution of 1966, which attempted to reshape the intellectual class, Gong Li was swept up in the events which form the backdrop to To Live.

"My parents worked as schoolteachers and they resisted against the revolution. They were taken away for a time.

"I was very young and I thought they'd done something wrong. I don't understand the scale and complexity of what was bappen-

Later, her two brothers and her sister were sent to the countryside, she said, explaining: "Chairman Mao Tsetung dictated that all children should be educated by the peasants."

She was teaching at Beijing's drama school when Zhang spotted her and cast



Chinese actress Gong Li and actor Ge You pose for photographs at the

her for the lead in his first film," Red Sorghum.

She went on to win a host of prizes including best actress in Venice in 1992 for The Story Of Qiu Ju.

The film that Gong Li has taken to Cannes in her fourth appearance at the festival marks a departure in the type of role she plays. She typically has portrayed

(To Live)

strong, outspoken women. "In To Live, I have a more difficult part than in other films. I'm an ordinary, nondescript woman and that's more difficult to play than somebody with a strong personality," she

screening of the Chinese film Wuzhe

"The story is about en-durance, the will to live, and how the Chinese people have to suffer and bear."

told a court he had been

Film-makers argue that

their productions are re-

flecting the reality of pre-

sent-day India and not in-

influenced by films.

we were going to neutralise or dilute the violence, Tamahori, a Maori, said in an interview.

we would put this on film in a way that hadn't been done before. Not to glorify violence or show it as a form of entertainment, but so people would be sickened and

The film has stirred controversy with its candid portrayel of the Maeris, who settled in New Zealand long before European whites and make up 13 per cent of

It tells the story of unemployed Jake Heke, his wife Beth and their five children. a family living on state welfare benefit in a run-down

Jake, played by Temuera Morrison, is a magnetic figure, alternately attractive and repellent as his mood swings from tenderness to

hold the family together

Grace, the beautiful elder daughter whose tragic death brings Beth closer to Ler children and spurs her to break Jake's stranglebold

True to its title, the film

The eldest son Nig joins a Maori gang of tattooed thugs in leather jackets who kick and beat him in a

writer, though he probably wrong age. "That was the would not agree with all | great tragedy of his charge-

film makes New Zealanders Hinch

By Mark Trevelyan Reuter

WELLINGTON — If audiences are sbocked, even sickened, by scenes from his film Once Were Warriors, then New Zealand director Lee Tamahori makes no apology.

Tamahori's explosive cinematic debut, screening at the Cannes Film Festival, is the tragic story of a Maori family at the mercy of a drunken father who bests his wife and terrorises his children.

Tamahori, 44, who would love to emulate the success of fellow Kiwi director Jane Campion with The Piano, says he wanted viewers to see the full horror of domestic violence.

"I wasn't going to do it if

"I was determined that repelled by it, by the sheer

the 3.5 million population.

part of Auckland.

alcohol-induced orutality.

Beth (Rena Owen), torn between love and hatred of her husband, struggles to and prevent her children falling prey to a life of squalor and crime.

Central to the plot is on their lives.

explores how the traditions of a once-proud warrior race have been debased in a modern urban setting where some Maoris are condemned to life without hope.

chilling initiation.

Jake himself is reduced to channelling his aggression into bloody barroom brawls and using his fists on his

Tamahori secs the hero as an anachronism — a man who is victim as well as tyrant because he is in the

another place he would be a much better human being.
"This nobility and all this pride had become lost by virtue of exposure to

enother culture, a far more formideole culture which ind ridden over the top of it -- namely white European Still, there are moments

of hope in the film.

As death unites Beth and the children in grief, she decides to leave Jake and return to her roots. The film's most moving scene is of the family mourning over Grace's open coffin at a traditional Maori funeral.

Tamahori, who based Once Were Warriors on a book hy Maori novelist Alan Duff, admitted he feered both of them might ce accused of disloyalty to their own people.

"I was aiways worried abcut what Maori would think about it, because it is essendolly a story about our own people. So we just kept driving hope, heart and

positive things into it."
In fact, he said, Mao said, Maoris who attended the premiere in Auckland this month were unanimous in their

"They didn't like what it had to say, but they said it was a truth and a reality.

and it had to be said. With lears in their eves they said this." Tamahori said. Setter known until now are a director of commerciais, he admits he initially

silied away from making the film because its themes wile-beating, rape, death ---"It was compelling, rivel-

ing ... I thought there were parts of that were unremittingly bleak and if you were to film that book page by page, people would just leave the theatre." Now working on two

more film ideas with Maori themes, he hopes Once Wese Warriors will win acciaim from critics and dis-Libutors in Cannes, where is screens out of competiziozt. The Piano, which won

the Palme D'Or at Cannes las: year, went on to capture Oscars for two New Zealanders — Campion as Best Director and Anna Paouin as Best Supporting Actress — as well as a Best Actress Award for American Holiy Hunter. Temehori acknowledges

his film msy be too harrowing to win commercial success -- "it's too confrontational, and I suspect some people will just find it too nard." But he wants viewers to

find Once Were Warrions an ultimately uplifting experience. "it's a tragedy, but out of that tragedy hope springs eternal and there's light at the end of the turn nel. I'd like people to thirth they walk away feeling that the human spirit is paramount and it can rise above all tored and all adversi-

He lost his case. The Arvind Trivedi said at the by pelvic thrusts and simuwhat is behind the skirts." meeting attended by 150 lated love-making borderanswer to the naughty film-makers, politicians and ing on the pornographic, opening lyrics follows imcritics. "Tomorrow they mediately - "beneath the critics say. blouse lies the heart" --will actually show what lies

Bellywood told to clean up sexy act

behind." "Sexy, sexy, sexy — they call me," went a song in which young actress Karishma Kapoor, grand-daughter of legendary film-maker Raj Kapoor, wriggled her posterior in suggestive fashion in front of the

ситсга. The censors ordered the film-maker to change the lyrics to 'baby, baby, baby" but the original version had already become popular after being shown repeatedly

on cable and satettile TV. More explicit Hindi lyrics with double-entendres that translate into "I will put it in" and "it is up" followed.

Many songs with double entendres are accompanied In "Roja" (Rose), a high-

ly acclaimed film about the Muslim insurgency in Kashmir, a song goes: "what happened on the wedding night... the bed started shaking... The film "Raja Bahu"

(Prince), women dressed as nurses tift their sarees and the leading man drops his pants. In "Aankhen," (Eyes), the same leading man is shown ducking his head into the heroine's skirt.

Both films, directed by David Dhawan, are among the biggest box-office grossers in India.

"The numbers are too vulgar. First we have songs about what is behind the hlouse and now we have chorcographer Chinni Prakash, whose cousin Tarun directed Raia Babu dances. sold The Week magazine. A survey sponsored by

the Media Advocacy Group and the National Commission for Women said most men believed that "all girls are like those portrayed on the screen."

Woman students of the Dethi University said in the survey they were being pestered by cat-callers who sang out: "Oye, ove, are you sexy."

"Films are inculcating wrong attitudes and children are more gullible," said the study.

. More seriously, multiplemurderer "Auto" Shanker, a scooter-rickshaw driver senienced to death for raping and killing several women in southern India,

fluencing the sex crimes and violence that have aroused so much concern.

And some of them say they have to include sex and violence to pack them in at a time when they are battling competition from video cassettes and cable television.

But they have little support from decision-makers. K.P. Singh Deo, the information minister, said it had become necessary to "exercise restraint upon what is shown" in films because they had so much power to "instill and cultivate either violent or good behaviour."

### Swans author trains sights on Mao

By Gareth . work Senter

LONDON — Jeng Chayy may be one of the world's besiseiling authors but she still seems taken names by her rapid rise to attempt

stardom. "I was absolutely thelice" and saunned by the success of Wild Swans." said Jung. whose zurabiogsuphical secount of modern Calife has topped the busi-cilers lists in over a dozen coun-

tries since its publication. "I wrote it with my acust and am very piensed that people all over the world were able to respond to it in the same way, with their hearts," she told Reuters in an interview at her West

London home. Wild Swans is the tale of three generalisas vi Chinese women — Jung. her mother and grandmother -- caught up in the turnoil of 20th century Chi-

It charts their expenses acus

under feudal warlords, the wantime Japanese occupation and bino Tsetung's Communist rule.

The book has been translated into 26 languages from Franish to Japanese, In Britain it was the top-selling paperback for 39 weeks and still rinks as number two. Earlies this year, the Brit-

ish publishing industry

named Wild Swans, published by Harpercollins, as book of the year. "I think the reason Wild Swans has been so successful is that it is a human story and its humanity cuts across

cultural, ideological and racial divides." Jung said. With a shy smile, she paints to her desk piled high with correspondence from readers and admirers wurl-

ປູນ ເປັນ The enady, its polished wooden doors gleaming in the spring sunshine, is advined with oriental antiques, wall scrolls and shilter of books in English and Chinese.

Jung has just returned from a trip to Japan, where she said people constantly stopped her in the streets to shake her hand and tell her how much they had appreciated ber book.

"It is very exciting to see how much our family story has been appreciated all over the world," said Jung. Jung came to Britain in

1978, the first person from her province to travel abroad to study after China began the tortuous process of opening up to the outside world after Mao's rule. She gained a docturate in linguistics at York University and married an English

Before faine overtook her, propelling her into a dizzying whirl of book launches and social events. Jung worked as a television researcher und us a teacher.

Though translated into Chinese and published in Taiwan and Hong Kong, Wild Swans is still not on sale in the People's Republic of China.

But it can be sent into China and people can read it openty. Reporters can't refer to it, though. Media and publishing are among the last areas of tight party control."

Jung often visits China to research her next project, a book about Mao Tsetung, which she will co-author with her husband.

On Mao, whose shadow looms large in wild Swans. Jung said: "I think he was undoubtedly a genius who dominated China hy his personal skills. His every whim was a command for China's billion people. No other ruler has wielded such power."

In her book, Jung recounts how, as a young student, she made the long, tiring journey from her home in the Western province of Sichuan to Beijing hoping to catch a glimpse of

On the big day, she saw

only the great helmsman's

back because of the huge crowds. Desperately disappointed, she contemplated suicide. Such hysterical devotion

now, she said, as China has opened up too far to be able to withdraw back down that path. Jung said she was interviewing many older people

in China for her book on

is unlikely to be repeated

"They seemed much more willing to speak after they had read Wild Swans," she said.

"Many said they couldn't read the book at night because it was too painful, not so much for the physical sufferings they had experienced hut because it reminded them of how their dreams had been crushed and their dedication wasted during the years of Mao's rule, i

Jung's mother, a key figure in the book who personally petitioned Mao's Prime Minister They Fel

more wonderful." Her mother, now 63. gave her the original idea to write Wild Swans while recounting her life to Jung a few years ago during a trip

for the release of her im-

prisoned husband, still lives

cess of my book was even

"For my mother, the suc-

in China.

to England.

Jung's only Sister has also remained in China but her three brothers - a physicist, a journalist and a businessman — have settled in Britain and France. Her father, an idealistic high-ranking party mem-ber, died after heing

ing to criticise the Cultural Revolution in a letter to "If my father were still alive, he would be proud of me because he always wanted me to become a

beaten, humiliated and

driven to insanity after dar-

### Concern grows over WHO drugs policy

By Andrew Chetley

ΦNDON — Attacks on Bangladeshi and Thai drug policies based on the World Health Organisation's (WHO) concept of "essential drugs" have fuelled cons about whether WHO wilkmaintain its global leadership on pharmaceutical

The basic idea of the essential drugs approach is that: about 270 medicines will meet at least 90 per cent of a country's entire medical needs, and that most of the other 100,000 preparations on offer around the world are unnecessary specially to cash-strapped developing countries — in-effective, too expensive or

even potentially hazardous. The \$220 billion-a-year pilarmaceutical industry opposes restricted lists, arguing that demand is best et to the market.

both Thailand and Bangladesh, the pharmaceutical industry has been campaigning for the overthrow of key parts of national drug policies, which, hy focussing on drugs considered most estential for public health, can save countries and consumers money and improve the quality of treatment.

Without a clear national pdicy, many governments find it difficult to counter the economic and political power of the international pharmaceutical industry.

As part of Thailand's drug policy, earlier this year country's Food and ng Administration prop-

the generic or elemina. name of a drug, as well the orand name, on all labelling and advertising.

Pharmaceutical manufac-

talers associations from both the United States and Europe have protested. Representing more than 2,000 pharmaceutical comparties — many with substantial business interests in Thailand - they cited the

"Uruguay Round" of trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) to claim that the Thai proposal would 'infringe trademark laws" and "constitute a severe non-tariff

barrier to trade." Canada, U.S., Uruguay, Denmark, Australia and the Philippines have similar policies. Several WHO documents recommended the use of generic names in labelling and advertising. Among these documents is the WHO Ethical Criteria for Medicinal Drug Promotion — which the pharmaceutical industry helped draft.

In Bangladesh, which became the first country to implement the WHO essential drugs concept when it adopted a drug policy in 1982, foreign-based phar-maceutical companies have been calling for its dismantling since a new civilian government took office in 1990.

Although the policy has increased the supply of essential drugs, held down prices, stimulated local production, and saved millions of dollars in foreign exchange, the industry claims it has discouraged foreign investors.

In recent months Finance Minister Saifur Rahman has sided with the industrialists as part of the government's drive to foster a market economy. Press reports suggest that he has developed a set of administrative orders that would effectively dismantle the policy.

custry group, "Health For Nation", published adver-tisements in February thanking him and saying "the country is about to be relieved from the destructive

effect of the drug policy."

Despite promoting free trade initiatives in many countries, the World Bank has joined WHO and UN-ICEF in publicly supporting the benefits of the national

drug policy in Bangladesh.
More generally, drawing
on the policies developed
by WHO, the World Bank argues that government in-volvement in regulation to "discourage the over-use and over-prescription" of

drugs "is necessary".

The World Bank which has become a major investor in pharmaceutical work over the past 10 years - has expressed concern about WHO's role. Its pharmaceuticals specialist, Denis Broun, said "WHO's leadership on pharmaceuticals is not as active as it has been. This could be a very

serious problem."

In January, WHO's executive head was expected to discuss progress by the organisation's Action Programme on Essential Drugs (APED), set up to help governments develop drug policies that ensure all people are able to obtain the drugs they need at the lowest possible prices; that these drugs are safe and effective; and that they are prescribed and used rationally.

However, a report on the programme failed to materialise. Dr. Sam Okware, a board member from Uganda, described the lack of a formal report on the programme as "rather unusual", particularly as it had been requested hy governments two years earlier. Dr. Okware said APED's

work was "very important" to a country like Uganda: 'Our national drug policy is based on the resolutions that have been adopted at in Tueld Medico Assemhly. As a result, we have been able to save money, and to ensure that there is no major wastage on drugs. It is very important that we get this encouragement to develop drug policies."

Marit Andrew, deputy assistant director-general of the Norwegian Board of Health, said the Norwegian government was "encouraging WHO to maintain and

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

strengthen the Action Programme on Essential Drugs. This is a very important programme. We want to be certain that WHO will give it the necessary status and attention."

APED has been without a permanent director for nearly a year, which is one reason given for the lack of the comprehensive report. In March, WHO's directorgeneral, Dr. Hiroshi Nakauma, announced the appointment of Margaretha

Helling-Borda to the post. He also told APED's management advisory com-mittee that "it must be our duty and our responsibility to stand firm on the principle of health for all, that is, equality in access to healtheare and drugs.'

Dr. Nakajima called for increased attention to the inappropriate use of drugs, which he described as "a source of great concern everywhere," because it wastes resources and — in the case of misuse of antihiotics --- risks serious longterm health consequences.

APED's management advisory committee, which represents the views of many donors to the programme and other interested parties, stressed at its March meeting that "WHO's leadership in providing access to essential drugs to those most in need of them has become more important than ever at a time when poor countries are facing desperate shortages of medicines,"

The committee approved a \$19.8 million budget for the 1994-95 programme. Said Margaretha Helling-Borda: "We have more requests coming from member states for activities than we can handle."

The number of WHO member states requesting and receiving technical assistance from the programme increased from 52 in 1990-91 to 80 in 1992-93. They included a growing number of African coun-

## Prescription for the medicine-makers



tries and countries from Eastern and Central Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Denis Broun said that

although it was not clear what future developments would hold for phar-maceuticals at WHO, the World Bank would be "happy to work with a re-

generated pharmaceuticals programme at WHO."

Dr. Stuart Nightingale of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration said that

following Dr. Nakajima's comments "it appears that WHO is committed to continuing a strong programme in the pharmaceuticals area"

## Battle against Canada's health care fraud heats up

透描述的 第三元字型 中国共和国的 3万元。如此等其最加速整督宫部间理整了"诗声"。 **"这一个一种是不是知道** 

By Jeffrey Ulbrich The Associated Press

TORONTO - It's clear that some Canadians are cheating their health-care system. The question is. for how much?

Ontario Health Minister Ruth Grier, for one, knows that fraud costs her province tens of millions of dollars, perhaps hundreds

of millions. Health care is Canada's largest industry. Each of the 10 provinces and two territories operates its own system under rules set down in the federal health act. Doctors hill the provincial government directly for services, using the patient's

laboratories and hospitals. Ontario, Canada's most populous province, spends \$12.8 hillion a year on health care, one-third of its budget. With that much money involved, there is plenty of room for fraud.

health card number. So do

"We have been content for 35 years of Medicare to be generous and not ask any questions," Ms. Grier said in an interview. "(Now) we realise we have to be more careful about allowing access to it." Estimates of how much

the Ontario system could be losing to fraud range from \$473 million, cited in a confidential ministry report last year, to \$47 million, mentioned by the minister last week while announcing plans for new, more sophisticated health cards.

Fraud includes falsely obtaining health cards or lending them, overbilling by doctors and performing unnecessary medical proce-

Media reports have spoken of waves of Americans coming to Canada to escape high U.S. health costs by fraudulently secking treatment. But there is no hard evidence of this.

Dr. Keith Macleod, who practices in Windsor, across the border from Detroit. said a more frequent problem is Canadians who marry Americans and live in the United States, but maintain a Canadian health card.

'These are ordinary, everyday, honest people who wouldn't rob from the church, wouldn't rob a bank, but (would) screw the government," ne said.

There are also some Americans who own summer cottages in Canada and have tapped into the system.

Ontario has a population of 11 million and, at one time, more than 14 million of its plastic health cards were in circulation. Now about 1.8 million cards duplicates and some issued to dead people — have been cancelled.

Mrs. Grier said the new cards will have a photograph and a magnetic strip containing basic patient information. The project will cost \$22 million a year for

three years. The photo and holog-raphic overlay will end the lending of cards and reduce the number of counterfeits. Under the current system, doctors have no way to check a card's validity.

There is more information on an Ontario fishing licence than on the current health card. And the penalties for misuse are greater, said Dr. Kevin Moran, who works in Toronto.

"If the natural resources guys find you with one extra trout, they can take your boat and your car. They can impound everything you've got," he said. Ontario has also beefed

up its health-fraud squad from two people to 10. It currently has 177 cases under active investigation, but only seven are in the courts.

Catching doctors is more difficult. Health Department computers detect thousands of suspicious claims every year, but only a few are investigated. What's more, investigations are carried out by the Medical Review Committee of the Ontario Medical Association — a bit like the

Only about 50 cases a year are examined by the Medical Review Committee, which sometimes orders a doctor to make repayments to the health system. Rarely is fraud by a doctor turned over to police

for criminal investigation. And there are laboratories owned by doctors, who in turn order more tests than necessary, said Ted Avey, an accounting expert paid by the Health Department

to find holes in the system. "You are talking about hillions of dollars - small dollars adding up to a lot," he said.

### **ANSWERS**

### BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. - Isobars to meteorology.

- Dolichocephalic to anthropology. Oedipus complex to psycho-pathology.

Titration to chemistry. - Exogamy to sociology.

 Steam And Speed by Joseph Turner, an English landscape painter (1775-1851).
 Hope by George Watts, an English painter (1817-1904).

■ The Last Supper, by Leonardo Da Vinci, an Italian painter (1452-1519). ■ The Last of England, hy Ford Madox Brown, an

English painter (1821-1893).

Bath Of Psyche, hy Frederick Leighton, an English artist (1830-1896).

\* \* \* \* \*

3. There are 24 (4×3×2) arrangements possible of four letters: but in this case there are two e's and so two of these arrangements will spell 'even'. The chances are then one in twelve, or eleven to one against.

\* \* \* \* \*

**PUZZLES** 

(A) DIVIDING THE DIAGRAM

(B) LADIES, PLEASE The common word in each case is:

1. C —ELLA —R

2. G -ANNE -T

3. T —RUTH —FUL

4. M —ADA —M

5. M -ALICE

6. MAUD - LIN

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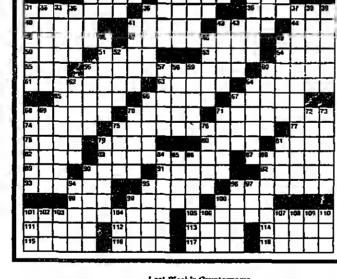
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Ciagramiess 19x19, By Frances Rurton

26 Britiantry colorer lish 29 Hill on the head 31 Leave suddenly 32 Cure-all

57 Showed o him again 58 Crow 58 La Douce and

93 Regular in movement - 95 Rath, e.g. 96 Occien Boors 98 Once cated 99 Beach flam 100 Bes of land- Fr 101 Legendary ruler 105 Early auto 111 Coral reef 12 Formal procedure 113 Nautocal term 114 Uncanny 115 RIS collection 116 Tarzan's pais 117 Besmarch s state abbr.



Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Forced by flooded river to flee, man floated oway oo base violin; his wife accompanied him on the plano.

Zealous young owner of lemonade stand offers senior citizen discounts to all good customers over twenty-five years old.

All five vowels are found in "pagemonia." Few other words can present

4. Sex therapist was vexed when her evil old es gut a hes on the oest

CRYPTOGRAMS 1. OEJLGM ESBI: KUJ BIGGIE SNIX QSNG KLLIKE KG BIKNG GZAOT KUX YKN GM

-By Dunne H. McGogy 2. BSJJRK HAF QTUK QALKE HE CKBBSLM BTIME HTBBANLC JA QTLF NEADBE TJ

MOOSE AU QMELGYKU MULZMEX.

3. NERVUNI RZZNYNGH QGLQ MNQ KUGQN GRERCQ MEQ BERVE YECQYW MNI RB ZVVH NEQVYCUV, CEVGQL GEW KCVGQL -By Rita Salvato

UIORUOC BETT ISINK BUTT. . - By Ed Huddleson





# Dutch welfare woes could

By Ian Geoghegan

THE HAGUE - A threeway cualition likely to form the next Dutch government could have a short shelf-life because of party differences over reforms to the country's troubled welfare system.

General elections this month produced an overanclming protest vote against soaring unemploy-ment, crime and government norma in tacking a spendwill social security system that effectively encourages people not to seek work. Labour emerged as the Ing-

"st party, despite heavy ioses, and will probably form the first three-way coalition or 12 years, with the conavative Liberals and leftearing Doo -- the so-called Purple Alliance" because of ts mix of party hues

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ation.

But piecing together a crkable government for the ment four years is likely to move even more tortuous han normal.

Commentators have warned that such a coalition would be unstable, given fundamental differences between Labour and Liberals on major policy issues such as າດcial welfare.

The Liberals want to take a hatchet to the social security system, proposing huge cuts as part of a radical overhaul, while Labour favours the scalpel and micro-surgery.

The three party leaders are to meet this week to decide whether there is enough common ground for them to go on and produce a blueprint for government policy.

But the Central Economic Committee (CEC) - an influential think-tank of top civil servants - has demanded big budget cuts, highfighting the gulf between the potential partners.

In a report prepared for the three party leaders, the CEC calls for a new government to cut spending by as much as 20 billion guilders (\$13.7 billion) over the next four years. This includes five billion guilders (\$2.6 billion) already earmarked for cuts oy the outgoing Christian Democrat-Labour coalition.

The CEC wants otg savings in disability ocnefits, leading to tax cuts which would help create 150,000 new jobs by

Unemployment is the main economic headache in the Netherlands. Each month another 18,000 people join the dole queues. For every 100 people in work, there are 86 claiming benefits.

The CEC proposes tighten-ing the criteria for those claiming disability benefit, stipularing that claimants must have been in work for at least five years.

ft also wants to abolish siekness benefits, reduce unemployment benefits and lower state subsidies.

The cost-savings should. the CEC said, be given back to companies and individuals through lower taxes.

The plans, which echo the Liberals' campaign pledge to stem the generous benefits. threaten to isolate Labour and exert extreme pressure on the coalition talks.

While Labour, Liberals and D66 try to thrash out their differences behind closed doors, the Christian Democrats are keeping a low pro-

Set for opposition for the first time in more than 70 years, the dominant force in Dutch politics quietly anticipates a swift return to power should the coalition either fail to materialise or collapse in infancy

The labortous, timeconsuming process of forming a new government has been criticised by, among others, Labour's Home Affairs Minister Ed Van Thin, as "the low point of democracy." because the electorate, having voted, has no real say in who governs.

conflicting public demands, the United Nations is falling between two stooks in its attempts to intervene in wartorn countries such as Bosnia, Somalia and now Rwan-

Under pressure to halt the bloadshed, U.N. "peacekeeping" troops have gone be and simple humaniturian relief and ceasefire political will to step in decisively to end the conflicts by

effort, the Security Council on Monday authorised the dispatch of 5,500 troops to Rwanda - if it can raise them. The move reverses a decision to withdraw most of

cure humanitarian areas' have to be protected

world in recent years.

Analysis say two factors have come together to pile onto the U.N. demands it connot meet.

put paid to an era in which the stand-off between Washington and Moscow. both holding vetoes in the Security Council, ruled out intervention in most conflicts. Now the U.N. is expected to live up to its ideals.

At the same time, a communications revolution has brought to television screens across the world live and often very shocking pictures of atrocities that prompt public calls for action.

major military powers now judge that in terms of public opinion they can only dispatch troops to fight when there is a clear national or

monitoring. But they have lacked the resources and the

to use force only in selfdefence. But, in terms that recall U.N. action in Bosnia, the resolution proposes "sewhich, it recognises, may

well aware that the proposed

Reuter

LONDON - A victim of

da, Western analysts say.

Dipiomats at the U.N. are

force is not going to stamp out the fighting in Rwanda. But the call for action of some sart, however inadequate, is typical of many conflicts that have erupted across the

The end of the cold war has

In its latest peacekeeping

4 2,500-strong force after civil war intensified last month. The troops are authorised

"The problem is that the

A DIFFICULT MISSION: German peacekeepers await the arrival of fellow soldiers deployed by the U.N. in Sontalia (AFP photos

عملة ا منه الأحل

# 'Crisis and expectations'

U.N. peacemaking seen falling between two stools

strategic interest," says former British ambassador to the U.N. Sir Anthony Par-

"The public is not prepared to swallow combat casualties. (r is saying "do something" — but not so much that it means body bags coming back to our own air-

"With this emphasis on avoidance of casualties, the U.N. is inevitably having recourse to half measures and falling between two stools." It is far cry from the end of the Gulf war in February

1991. Then, the rout of Iraqi

invasion forces in Kuwait by

a U.S.-led multinational force raised hopes of a "new world order" in which aggression would be punished and wars suppressed.

Yet within menths of the Gulf war, fighting had erupted in Yugoslavia that the world community presed powerless to stop. Critically, Washington de-

cided that the conflict did not involve U.S. national interests, one of several conditions laid down by President Bill Clinton last year for U.S. participation in U.N. peacekeeping. So no U.S.

ment by force.

ground forces were sent. European powers that Jin

send troops drew an uneasy line between "peacekeeping - monitoring a ceasefire declared by the warring parties — and what they considered the unrealistic task of "peacemaking" or imposing a settle-

But the threat, and briefly last month the use, of NATÓ air strikes to defend U.N.declared "safe areas" in Bosma blurred the line without resolving the conflict. Now same countries are threarening to go home if the com-The iii fated U.N. in-

tervention in Somalia to end famine caused by factional fighting compounded the problem by underlining public intolerance of cargattles.

The killing of 18 U.S. soldiers in Mogodish, tart October destrayed support in U.S. Congress for further involvement and all American troops were withdrawn.

Even where U.N. troops have gone in with a more limited mandate to supervise elections things have later gone awry

In Angola, the results of the poll in 1992 were rejected hy the losing UNITA faction and the country relapsed into civil war. In Cambodia,

fighting has recently intensi-fied between the government elected list year and Klimer Roege guerrillas

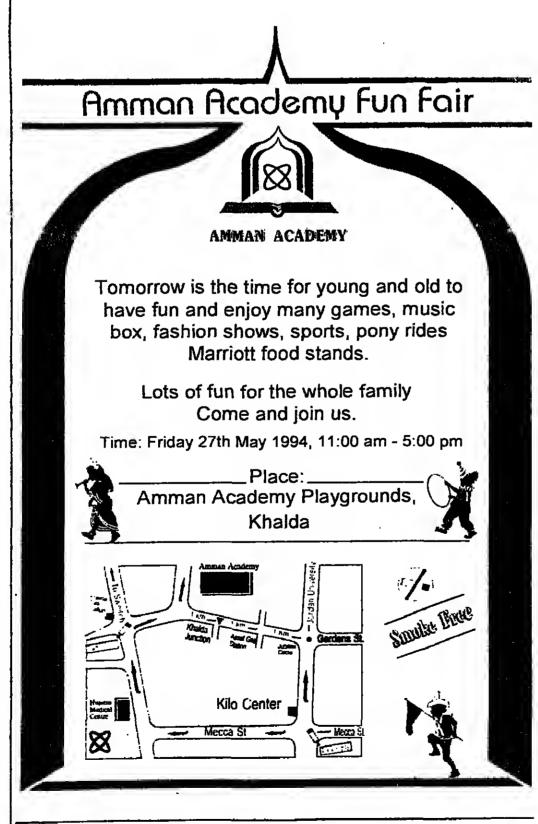
Many analysts say the U.N. is suffering from a "erisis of expectations," following the cold wer. "Idealism about the U.N.'s

future role in international relations generated expectations which could not be met and, in the process, undermined the credibility of the organisation," says Mats Berdid of the International Insti-

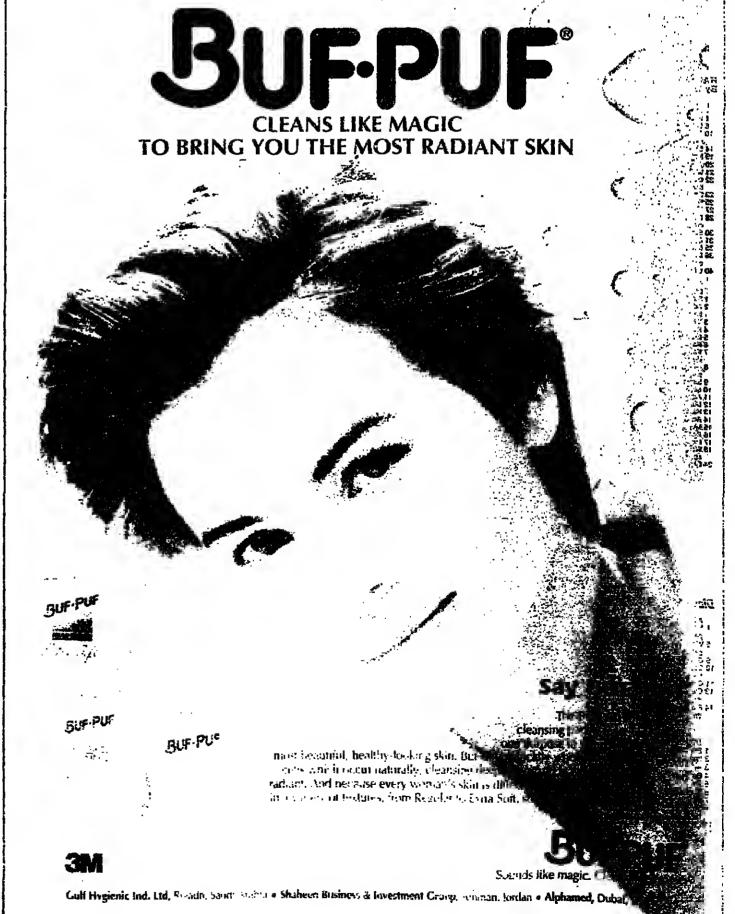
tute for Strategic Studies. Whether a decisive U.N. intervention in one country, say Bosnia, would have stopped other conflicts erupting is a matter of dispute but some analysts believe the failures 403 have been contagious.

Somali warlord Mohamed Farah Aideed, they say, was inspired by the success of the Bosnian Serb commander General Ratko Mladic in defying the U.N.
"Each warlord in turn bas"

drawn comfort from the faieffectively with the previous saw warlord," Mr. Parsons said, wif "If I were a warlord now, I a think I would say: If I can promise the international community casualties, they will stay out."



Save water ... every drop counts



### U.N. says world ignores development at its own peril

UNITED NATIONS (R) -Secretary-General Bontros varned that development was iding from the world's agenand the consequences for mability and security in rich and poor countries alike.

He called for a "new culzerrow economic principles and include peace, the environment, social justice and democracy as integral parts of development.

The U.N. chief unveiled a 50-page "Agenda for Develop-ment" in which be listed holisne guidelines rather than speci-5. programmes in a quest to piace the United Nations at the rentre of development assist-

"The concept of development — and decades of effort to reduce poverty, illiteracy, seese and mortality rates us great achievements of this contary," he said.

"E at development as a com-THER rause is in danger of making from the forefront of our agenda" dramatically indercut by a post cold-war ivalanche of new problems inredating both rich and poor o martines

"Frogress is not inherent in in haman condition. Retrogession is not inconceivable.

The agenda will be the suborganised by General Assemearings June 6-10, President Samuel Insanal-Thereafter Dr. Boutros-Chali will make specific recommendations in time for the next assembly session in

September. The report is meant to be a counterpart for Dr. Boutros-Shali's "Agenda for Peace," published in mid-1992, which idenulated debates on the future of peacekeeping.

The secretary-general beaccepted the myriad of uncoordinated programmes within the U.N. structure. But he conisaded that only the United illations was capable of leading red-coordinating a new convert for development.

a practice, the U.N. Secreterrat has not controlled large evelopment grants or loans as the Vorid Bank and the Inter-\*ational Monetary Fund (IMF)



**Boutros Boutros-Ghali** 

although U.N. agencies, have their own decision-making

governing boards. Dr. Boutros-Ghali said the U.N. Economic and Social Council, a major U.N. body with member states elected to coordinate policies of agencies, had abdicated its responsibil-

"Over the years, the absence of clear policy guidance from the General Assembly and the lack of effective policy coor-dination and control by the Economic and Social Council has resulted in an overall lack of cohesion and focus within the (U.N.) system," he said.

To ensure growth, Dr. Bontros-Ghali argued for "pragmatic policies" which take advantage of the efficiency of markets rather than rely on governments as "paramont

economic agents."

But he said economic growth could only work if it promoted full employment, poverty reduction and improved patterns of income distribution,

In an apparent criticism of IMF policies, he said, that although structural adjustment was necessary, governments must be helped to cope with the buman consequences of such reforms,

"Absolute poverty, bunger, disease and illiteracy are the lot of one-fifth of the world's population," he said. "There can be no more urgent tasks for development than to attack both the causes and the symptoms of these ills."

### Marks and Spencer rings up big rise in profits

LONDON (R) - Marks and Spencer PLC, Britain's most profitable retailer, said Tuesday profits rose nearly 16 per cent est year as it pushed sales upwards in a tough trading environsent by keeping prices down.

Pre-tax profits surged to a record £851.5 million (\$1.29 billion) a 10 per cent increase in turnover to £6.54 billion (\$9.88

Earnings for the 53 weeks to end-March rose 16 per cent to 20.9 gence a share. The divideno rose by 13.6 per cent to 9.2 pence a

Chirman Richard Greenbury said the group achieved sales increases ahead of the national average and boosted market Pare, especially in elothing.

# U.S. GATT critics spread nonsense, Sutherland says

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Members of the U.S. Congress who say the new General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) pact will violate U.S. sovereignty are spreading "absolute non-sense", GATT Director-General Peter Sutherland said Wednesday.

The 25,000-page agreement ending the Uruguay Round of GATT, which went to Congress last week, cuts tariffs and sets up a World Trade Organisation (WTO) to settle trade

Newt Gingrich, the House Republican whip, has com-pared the WTO to an "economic United Nations" where the United States "could be outvoted by Antigua, by Bots-wana, hy Venezuela." National sovereignty itself could be threatened, be has said.

expects sharp

DUBAI, United Arab Emi-

rates (AFP) - The sonthern

Gulf emirate of Duhai expects

a sharp rise in activity at its two

main ports, already among the

biggest 15 in the world, port

authority chairman Sultan Ibn-

The Rashid and Jebel Ali

"Our plans for the next 10

vears will focus on strategie

investment to face the upturn

in business as we expect 3.7

million containers to be hand-

led in the year 2003," be said.
"We now have 18 cranes to

bandle containers and they will rise to 30 in 1998 and 34 in

Dubai, the second biggest

member of the United Arab

Emirates (UAE), is the main

transhipment centre in the re-

ROME (R) - Italy put state

insurer Instituto Nazionale per

le Assicurazioni SPA (INA) up

for sale Tuesday in the first

privatisation under the free

market government of Prime

largest to date in Italy's priva-

tisation drive and is sure to

show the willingness of the

media tycoon to dispose of

sell up to 51 per cent of the

company's four billion shares.

It said the shares would be

priced in a range of 2,200-2,700

lire, putting a value of up to

10.8 trillion lire (\$6.8 billion)

put on the company is low, as

most people had been lonking for about 12 trillion lire (\$7.5

billion)," one financial analyst

"The value the treasury has

on the whole of INA.

The treasury, which owns all

state companies.

The sale will be one of the

Minister Silvio Berlusconi.

ports handled nearly 1.5 mil-

Sulayem told newspapers.

lion containers in 1993.

rise in port

Dubai

activity

'That argument is absolute nonsense,' Mr. Sutherland told reporters after addressing the Pacific Basin Economic Council. "By any stretch of the imagination, sovereignty is not

Mr. Sutherland, a former Irish attorney-general who has practised law in the United States, argued that critics have misconstrued the WTO as an instrument of world govern-He said the WTO would

parties to the accord have disrise retaliation. "It would be incomprehensible

have no power to override the laws of nations. Instead, when putes, the WTO could autho-

to me that the issue could be politicised in the U.S. Congress to the extent of undermining the most important trade agreement in history,"

LONDON (R) — Britain's Se-tious Frand Office (SFO) said

Wednesday it was investigating

or prosecuting 48 cases of

alleged business and financial

scams involving £5 billion (\$7.5

billion), a drop in its legal

The SFO said the figures,

released in its annual report,

compared with 57 cases of

alleged frand the office was

handling a year earlier that covered £6 billion (\$9 billion).

It gave no explanation for the

The SFO said of 23 criminal

trials linked to alleged serious

fraud that were concluded in

the year ending April 1994, 32 of a total 54 defendants were

convicted. One for more de-

fendants were convicted in 20

out of 23 trials, it said. The SFO dealt with more

fraud on creditors of com-

panies, on banks and on inves-

tors than a year earlier, while

there were fewer cases of fraud

"They must have decided on

a strong discount to ensure the

sale goes through well and

because the market is a bit

overvalued at the moment," he

added. The final price of the

shares will be set before the

The proceeds will raise as

much as the sale of two of

Italy's previous privatisations.

former state banks Banea

Commerciale Italiana SPA and

will be one of the largest com-

panies on the Italian market,

where it is likely to be the

second-largest insurer after

Assicurazioni Generali SPA.

listed on Milan Bourse and are

also expected to be traded in

One quarter to 37.5 per cent

of INA's expital will be offered

to members of the Italian pub-

lie with the rest going to pro-

New York.

INA's shares are due to be

Unce it is privatised, INA

offer opens on June 27.

Credito Italiano SPA.

Italy puts top state insurer up for sale

caseload since 1993.

he said. "It would be an act of great folly to question the

In his speech, Mr. Sutherland, who is leaving GATT at year's end, expressed confidence the accord would be ratified in time for the WTO to start on the target date of Jan. 1. He praised President Bill Clinton for pushing the issue.

China, which like Russia and some 20 other nations is not a member of GATT, has been pushing to join the WTO as an founder member.

Calling China's inclusion a "top priority" Mr. Sutherland said talks were in a "decisive Negotiations next month could determine whether China achieves its goal.

Among the issues preventing China's entry now, Mr. Suther-

Office cites lighter caseload

on pension funds, scams in-

volving manipulating financial

markets and fraud on govern-

George Staple, the director of the SFO, said in a news

release that accompanied the

report that public attention in

Britain had focused in the last

year on a relatively small num-

ber of high profile fraud cases.

in 1988 at the height of the

economic boom in Britain.

normally handles alleged fraud

involving more than £5 million (\$7.5 million).

The annual report said the

office had been criticised for

the way it handled one of its

most visible cases, the prosecu-

tion of Asil Nadir, the chair-

man and chief executive of the

now-collarsed conglomerate.

Mr. Nadir's lawyers said the

SFO usef its wide-ranging pow-

ers in 1990 not only to launch

Tight limits were set on how

much buyers can own to avoid

INA falling into the hands of

Members of the public will

be limited to huying an initial 0.5 per cent and the profes-

sional investors - pension

funds and insurance companies

- will have a two per cent

The treasury said that single

linked in controlling share-

holding syndicates in third par-

ties" would not be able to awn

more than five per cent by

subsequently buying up stock

Analysts said that measure

would help avoid a repetition

of the controversy that erupted

after the sale of Banca Com-

merciale and Cardino latticals.

when atlies of the secretive

merchant bank Mediobanca

on the bourse.

subjects

Polly Peck International.

fessional investors.

big financial groups.

The SFO, which was created

**Britain's Serious Fraud** 

ment bodies.

and uniformity of its laws, the function of state trading com-

Mr. Sutherland cautioned delegates to the conference against seeing regional trade agreements as an alternative to a global accord. He noted that such a view had been "firmly rejected here in South East

"This is an entirely misplaced view and could inevitahly set the scene for trade conflicts of the most serious and politically dangerous kind," he said.

"Regionalism and multilateralism are not alternatives. They are not even merely complementary. A stable, ruleshased multilateral trading system is not an adjunct to, but an absolute required precondition

repeated raids on the business-

man's home and office, but to

seize coafidential documents

necessary to his future legal

defence, then wrongfully make

them available to parties who

The SFO later admitted its

staff had distributed a small

number of privileged docu-

"That mistake had not been

acknowledged when it should

have been... the irregularity to

legal professional privilege was

the only significant complaint

(against the SFO) on behalf of

Mr. Nacir to be substanti-

ated," the SFO's annual report

1990 and faced charges con-

cerning his management of Polly Peck, but jumped bail in

May 1993 and fled to his native

northern Cyprus, saying he

could not get a fair trial in

SPA gained effective control

Mediobanca, controlled by

Italy's Milan-hased industrial

establishment, drew sharp cri-

ticism from members of Ber-

lusconi's government who i ave

vowed to ensure companies

sold off in future retain a dif-

Get::ng INA's privatisation

approved was a race against

the clock for Berluscont's gov-

ernment, sworn in only two

weeks ago after his "Freedom

Alliance" won general elec-

Shortly after winning a final

vote of confidence in parlia-

ment last Friday, Berlusconi's

cubinet sat late into the night

to finalise the details of INA's

sale. Had Tuesday's deadline

for a special shareholders'

therting not been out; the sale

would have been delayed to

fuse shareholder base.

tions in March.

October.

of the two banks.

Mr. Nadir was arrested in

had no right to see them.

panies and tariffs.

for the healthy growth of re-gional trade, Mr. Sutherland explained. Opposition to GATT, he said, is centred in "narrow but vocal and politically powerful

lobbies unwilling to cope with change."

While the husiness community generally supports the accord, Mr. Sutherland said, husiness leaders should become more engaged in the debate or risk defeat at the hands of a "focused opposi-



Peter Sutherland

#### HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR THURSDAY MAY 26, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You may feel the need to make some startling changes now but take a few moments out to think deeply and decide whether or not the changes are really going to prove beneficial in the immedi-

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Daytime is likely to be difficult except for late afternoon when an interesting person relieves tensions. Express happiness to those close to you.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Be sure not to react bitterly to remarks made by a careless person. Take steps to improve your health and appearance especially towards bigwigs.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Don't become involved in an altercation between two associates and it will soon blow over.

User care in motion especially on the highway. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Use extra care in whatever task you are involved in today and get excellent results.

Sidestep a spendthrift who will ask for money. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Keep busy at important business matters and gain benefits. Your mate may be in a difficult mood but take this in stride for things get better.

home duties than outside affairs loday. Follow all regulations that apply to you and you will be able to handle any situation.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Put your finest ideas to work and gain the support of associates. Take no risks in travel when it gets dark. De wise to all

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Handle monetary matters wisely now and postpone less important alians until later in the week. Be logical in doing any project.

SAGITTARIUS: illovember 22 to December 21) Study long-range plans and be patient, since they do not come to truition quickly. Improve your appearance for those in authority.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 26) Be sure to coulin the data you need from the right sources. The planets are now favourable for getting ahead in

AQUARIUS: (Janeary 21 te February 19) This is a good day to be your gregarious self. Try to understand the problems of others. Avoid one who is too talkative towards others.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Carry through with cutside chores in an efficient number and gain added benefits. Plan the future wisely for the most be-

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Be more concerned with

#### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY MAY 27, 1994

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Don't be forceful with others who disagree with your views. Come to a better accord with fellow associates. Be wise to all that comes around.

Listening to suggestions of associates is wise now and be sure to cooperate more with them. Try to be helpful to others you meet.

July 21) You may want to have a good time now, but it's 10 your best interest to save money now

have to be diplomatic at home today to avoid trouble. Study a new project well since it is bound to have some flaws connect with

VIRGO: (August 22 to Septem-

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

You will be able to work out a better financial arrangement early in the day but it won't give you all the benefits you feel should be yours. Try to see why your associate is withholding the entire package.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20)

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Schedule your daily activities wisely and then carry through with them in a positive manner. Don't waste time on useless en-

MOON CHILDREN: (Jace 22 to

instead of spending it. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You

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ber 22) Be tactful with others so that they don't take their ise out

on you. Avoid a terdency to solurge when you can't Afford it. LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You have to be careful in the handling of investments and other fictorial matters to

avoid trouble at this time. SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Pe more thoughtful of others in going after your aims and avoid unpleasariness. Take steps to improve your

health and appearance. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Keep personal worries to yourself since others have their own problems to think

about. Think constructively about a new project. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to

January 20) Take advantage of an opportunity coming your way which could give you added in-come. Series for he spiness in your dark life. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Study new activities which interest you early in the

day but don't make decisions

until the evening when things are

less complicated. PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Put off until tomorrow an activity that is concerned with improving your welfare. Take positive steps to gain your goois you desire.

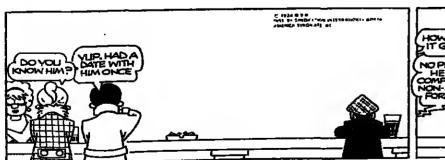
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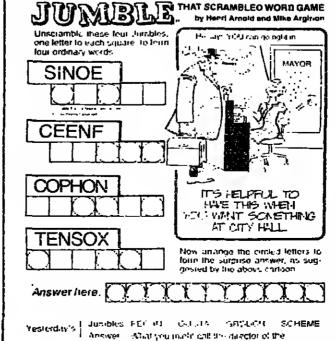


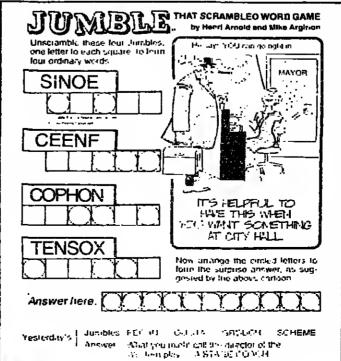
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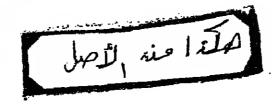






THE Daily Crossword by Evelyn Benshool





### Commodity prices take breather

LONDON (R1 — Commission markets drew breath Wednesday as prices weakened across the board in what analysts described as a healthy reaction to their recent dizzy viimb.

But investors were likely to shake off jitters and stage fresh attempts to push markets to new highs in coming weeks.

A strong U.S. economy to fuelling consumption, crops are poor in several countries, the outlook hasn't changed and funds will continue to vitura these markets," a trader said

Rains in U.S. grain-growing areas doused the commodity price rally on Tuesday, prompting speculators to self Clining or grain futures and other mar-

The selling led to a sharp tail in U.S. Commodity Research Bureau index futures and sparked a chain reaction of declines in the basket of map. kets from which it is compiled.

Coffee and cocco prices (e); precipitously from seven and six-year highs on Wednesday as investors cashed in profits 3"It's clear the scope for commodity prices to rise to large bearing in mind where they are coming from," said And. Smith, analyst at Union Bank of Switzerland. "Bet this has been a low interest rais. speculation-driven talls which has hastened price rises normally seen later in the economic evele.

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Commodity prices have climbed from very depressed levels and univ last year most were languishing at their lowest for years.

But strong U.S. consumetion and signs of recovery in other industrial economics. coupled with poor crops in some vommodities, have fuglled considerable gains.

Buying by hedge fynds and other privaty speculators has brought forward price rises likely later this year. They have seen commodity markets as a chance to make money at a time when bond and share markets are looking shaky.

A further twist to the upward spiral has come from industry buying to rebuild inventories now they believe low prices to be a thing of the past.

### Economics, not talks, seen boosting Japan imports

Japanese politicians are congratulating themselves for agreeing to resume stalled trade talks, but economists say the real work of boosting imports to Japan is moving shead, regardless of government efforts

"Consumers are already voting with their feet and there is a shift by Japanese manufacturem and retailers to increase oversels sourcing," said Geoffrey Barker, which economist at Barine Securities (Japan). That's what will bring down the survius.

"That change combined with a cyclical recovery in Japan, is worth any number of trade agreements," Mr. Barker added.

Washington and Tokyo said

Tuesday they had agreed to and a infectmenth fluits, its their economic framework talks and swiftly return to the table in scuren of a new econo-The overall aim of such a

deal remains life same as when the Original pact was signed in July 1943 - to cut Japan's mammoth trade surplus and instease imports. Crafting a new pact is likely to be trugh, given continued

differences between the two

sides, but many economists say

market forces are likely to achieve the goal anyway. \* The forces that created a protected economy have

structural pressure on Japan. allowing market forces to do the work," and Paul Summerville, head of Asian research at Lehman Brothers Japan.

Support for that view comes from many sources, from the usles of convenience stores to government trade statistics.

Convenience chain store operator Familymart Co. Ltd. is expanding sales of low-cost brands - among them imported U.S. made Cola in sell for a mere 68 yen per can, compared with the 106 year price tag on locally produced

foreign car imports, includme many inade at Japanese firms' uverseus plants, are also souring. Boosted partly by the strong yen and price vuts, imported vehicle sales jumped 13.9 per vent to a record 217.633 in the year ended March 31.

Japan's trade surplus is still aniwing in dollar terms after louching a record \$121.99 billion in 1993/94, but part of the use has been due to the impact of the strong Japanese currency, which inflated the dollar value of exports. Measured in ven, the 1993/94 surplus fell

Import volume, meanwhile, is surging. In April alone, import volume jumped 10.3 per vert comared with April 1993.

Behind the anecdotes and the numbers are structura! changes triggered by the strong yen and a three-year recession after the heady days of the late 1980s "bubble reamoniy."

المكذا منه الأصل

Japanese consumers and corporations are becoming more sensitive to price as the decisive factor in huving. Further, a new group of Japanese firms want to promote deregulation, streamline the Byzantine distribution system and profit from altered consumer attitudes.

There is a new constituency of Japanese companies trying to accelerate the U.S. agenda in Japan," Mr. Summerville said. "They're doing mure to drive the American agenda than America."

Other economists warn. however, that fureign firms might not be the main beneficiaries of the revolution in attitudes toward prices and a streamlined distribution sys-

"A lot of Japanese firms are making products to sell in that (slimmer distribution system) and many of the imports are Japanese products made chewhere in Asia," said Kynneth Courtis, vhief economist 2: Deutsche Bank Georg in

"Ít is not altogether obvieus that streamlining distribution means more manufactured imports or that the U.S. will necessarily henefit," he added.

### Iran to pay billions in subsidies this year

NICGSIA (it) - from will pay subsidies on some staples and aid in benefit the needs including singers for wounded seldiery and rural health services, the Indian terms agency IENA

It quoted an official budget report a neving francial day total subsides of 5.2 trillian nyals (55% billion) in those categories in the year started March 21.

TRNA said more than \$1.7 billion will subsidise staples and about \$300 indices will go to medicines and the foreign inedical groups Subsidies to aid the eldern

in Paral areas will receive 5 25million, 120,5 V said. Appropriate absorbing highly ferential to be seen even out? for physical and It some modical operation and temporations and temporary statement with agree and to

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### Israeli peace dividend has dark side-inflation

stuff Israel: dreams were made of: Peace with the Palestinians and mass lewish immigration from the Soviet Union.

But the dividend has a dark side that is giving Israel's watchdog central bank no rest inflation

Hamning at 13.5 per cent. the benchmark consumer price index is outstraping government forecasts of eight per centinflation in 1994.

The Bank of Israel, releasing Wednesday its annual report on the state of the economy. attributed much of the rise to housing prices climbing at an unmail rate of 35 per cent on the total of newer and immigrait said the agreement on

Polestings, self-tale in the Cara Strin and Jericha thefied specializing that I some of the leasth offices will return to band, busisting Jemand for nev appetments already in short supply and driving up

The pant, said that was value ing Istaniis ta rash to buy now berong it doing becomes even more experience. Transcipoking to have up into higger fiats. and their terms of their emile particular in Israel's

continuous flood of immig-

Between 1990 and 1993, some 500,000 Jews arrived from the former Soviet Union. Now settled in -- their unemployment rate fell to 20 per cent last year from 50 per cent in 1990 - they are eager buyers buoyed by attractive

mortgage rates. Prices have shot up in a seller's market. A three bedroom house in a suburb between Tel Aviv and occupied Jerusalem sold for about \$235,000 in January, 1993, It

now goes for about \$315,000. Traditionally, as a hedge against inflation that 10 years ago hit 400 per cent, housing prices in Israel have been denominated in U.S. dollars.

The owner of a threebedroom flat in Bat Yam, a working class town near Tel Aviv, said dozens of buyers had tracked through the apartment in the week she nad advernised it.

Many had said they would match her asking office of \$160,000.

But her offer for a bigger house has been put on hold. because "the owner says he has so many offers he is going to 'auction' it off." she said.

Jacob Frenkel, presenting the bank's report for 1993, said:

"An analysis of the (housing) problem shows there are three main bottlenecks in the supply of accommodations: Availability of land, the pace -of construction, and manpow-

He called on the government to release more state-owned ... land to private contractors who would be obligated contractually to begin and end construction at sel dates to stop them from holding on to the tracts until orices rise further.

Mr. Frenkel also proposed a temporary increase in the import of foreign construction workers, noting that closures of the West Bank and Gaza Strip keep 30,000 Palestinian labourers from reaching building sites in Israel.

But Mr. Frenkel cautioned :. the government against directly building cheap housing. "Past experience shows this : is wasteful and ineffective." he

The cabinet is due to meet

Sunday to consider a treasury .... and housing ministry proposal 12 to free up land for construc-

### Development aid suffers from cutbacks

GENEVA (AFP) - Devetopment aid is suffering because fielt vountries are cutting back on public spending and divening tunds instead to entergency relief according to an internafertie report.

in the report, entitled "Thy Reality of Aid 94," some 100 non-governmental organisations noted that most members of the Organisation of Econumic Cooperation and Development (OECD) would be cutting back on aid to developing countries this year.

depressing," the report said. Only your OECD members vides 20 per cent of development aid, Demiank, Iteland and New Zealand -- have budgeted for an mercase in aid, the report said, This deep in funding was all

the more serious as in 1993 only the Netherlands, Denmark, Swyden and Norway had invi a U.N. target which calls for industrialised countries to contribute (t,7 per cent of their gross dometic product (GDP) to The report also criticised the

lack of commitment by OECD "The reality of aid in 1994 is countries to fighting poverty.

despite numerous declarations of intent to do so. In 1992, donor countries

contributed \$64.4 billion in devetopment aid, but only some Iff per cent of this actually went to help fight poverty according to the report. "DAC members (danois

vountries) still appear to see veonomic adjustment and governance reforms as being the essentials of development. It is as if the alleviation of poverty is a bonus which is sure to follow," the report said. Commercial considerations

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### Moscow drafts new regulations to tighten tax noose on foreigners

MCSCOTT (R. - Russia's fination the seem and the tax often, move practical new regulation to the expettiates to pay income to said one proposal as to presente rengigners. with fait to oblige. Interfax. Some Agency has exide

The performes are also di aving up legal anon to monithe new travel entry by foreigners and these also do not paymodel have their "possessions confinenced temporarily." In-

Another publishe measure moder discussion was to prevent ban . in Russia from transferring the funds of expatrictes without permission from the tax office. Interfax

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Officials said the government was losing potential revenues because of tax cheating hy foreign firms.

Foreign companies would be required to routinely submit data on their expatriate employees and their salaries.

The top Russian income tax hracket is 30 per cent and applies to annual earnings of more than 10 million roubles (\$5,300).

The current regulatory chaos of Russia means that Western consultancy firms, and not the government, are effectively acting as tax police for many foreign firms on behalf of the

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In Soviet days, foreigners could change dollars at soaring black market rates and help reduce their rouble tax burden.

But lately, the rouble has become a more or less stable currency. In 1993, its depreciation against the dollar of some 300 per cent lagged behind inflation of 1,000 per cent.

The measures are the latest in a series of new tax rulings by the government in recent

A 23 per cent tax on foreign capital investments in Russia. floated by tax officials last month, is putting at risk hundreds of millions of dollars in potential investment, bankers

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Financial Markets



Саттевсу	I MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 ATTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.1305	4.1200	1.6400	5.2503
Sterling Pound	4.6100	2.9250	5.1300	5.5600
Democre Mark	5.000	2. 21C3	4.7500	4.7500
Switz Franc	3.8100	3,7525	3.7500	3.7530
French Frank	5.4500	5.2300	5.1540	5.2500
Japanese Yen	1.8500	1.9405	T. 5000	7.1903
Zaropean Currenty Upi:	S ARCE	2 5a0ul	6 6000	2 2402

Data: 19 5/1994

Callenes	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6920	2.7000
Sterling Pound	1.0525	1.0518
Deutsche Mark	2.4210	0.4:51
Swiss Franc	0.4947	0.4972
French Franc	2.1237	9.1557
Jepanese Yea"	3.6735	0.57et
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Swedish Krona		*****
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Belgian Franc	••••	

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### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) - Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the Landon Fertings beclame and bullion markets Wednesday

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One ounce of gold

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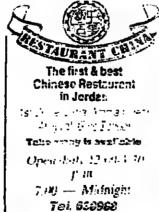


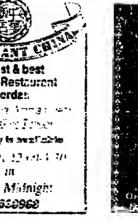


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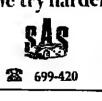












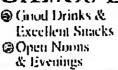
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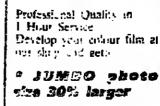












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## U.N. envoy leaves Rwandan capital for peace talks as fighting rages

KIGALI (R) — U.N. envoy Iqhai Riza left U.N. headquarters in Kigali for peace talks with Rwanda's interim government Wednesday after a two-hour delay because of Sghting on the route.

A 20-vehicle U.N. convoy, including an armoured troop carrier with Riza aboard, left for the government's seat near the town of Gitarama, 40 kilometres southwest of Kigali, after rebels assured the U.N. they would allow it to pass.

The departure was delayed for two hours and 10 minutes by fighting between government troops and Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) rebels at "sniper's valley" just south of the capital, U.N. officers said.

Mr. Riza, the deputy head of U.N. peacekeeping opera-tions, is on a mission to win government and rebel approval to clear the way for 5,500 U.N. peacekeepers to move

into the blood-soaked country.
U.N. officials said he would meet the president and prime minister of the government. which consists of members of Rwanda's Hutu majority who declared themselves in power after the killing of President Invenal Habyarimana on April

The interim government fled to a civil servants' training college near Gitarama days after the start of renewed civil war between the government and rebels and mass slaughter following the president's death in a rocket attack on his plane. Earlier Wednesday, shells hit an International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) hospital compound in the Rwan-dan capital of Kigali, killing two Rwandan staff, U.N. officers said.

They said two shells slammed into the compound of the hospital next to the ICRC headquarters in the government-held city centre facing frontlines held by the rebel Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF).

The RPF has continued to shell the city centre despite the extension of a truce until Wednesday evening during Mr. Riza's visit.

"Riza is trying to hring peace to this damned place but bow are we supposed to believe it will work when they can't even stop the fighting during his meetings?" said an aid official.

The government wants him to work because they are losing. But the rebels appear to be only acting polite by seeing him as they are really focusing purely on military victory," be

After two hours of talks with the army chief of staff, Mr. Riza said Tuesday the rebels and government troops had assured him they were committed to a political rather than military solution to end their civil war and mass slaughter.

talks, at the abandoned Hotel Des Diplomates in Kigali's heart, Mr. Riza's U.N. convoy had to run a gauntlet of mortar

The envoy is trying to clear the way for 5,500 U.N. peacekeepers to deploy in this central African state, torn apart hy seven weeks of war

and massacres. Ghana, Ethiopia and Senegal have committed troops to stem the borror in Rwanda hnt the United Nations is falling far short of the 5,500 peacekeepers it wants.

While several other nations bave indicated willingness to supply troops as well as logis-- among them Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Italy and Australia - a U.N. spokesman said firm commitments were still missing.

Over a million displaced

people are in desperate need of relief aid.

Aid officials estimate over 500,000 people have perished in Rwanda's "kiliing fields" across the country — most were members of the Tutsi minority slaughtered by the

Hutu majority.
"To provide for perhaps 40,000 refugees in Kigali we have at the moment 15 tonnes of maize and 90 cartons of biscuits," said a U.N. aid official. "It's pathetic but every time we try to get something else from the warehouses we are attacked.

"All road routes are blocked so we will bave to rely on an airlift as soon as it gets going. People are oying all the time but we are powerless to do anything to help them," he

"The depth of hatred between the communities in Rwanda is something 1 bave never seen before. They just want each other dead makes Somalia look like a friendly place," he said.

Meanwhile, a C-130 Hercules plane which shuttles between Nairobi and Kigali for the United Nations was shot at and hit when it took off from Kigali Airport Tuesday, the United Nations said. One bullet struck one of the

aircraft's engines. The damage was not noticed until arrival back in Nairobi and no-one was injured in the incident, but all flights into Kigali Wednesday have now been cancelled.

It was not clear whether the rebeis or government forces fired at the plane. The RPF captured the airport last Mr. Riza had flown in on the

plane, known as Canada-1. He will not fly out of Kigali after Wednesday's scheduled talks with the government in Gitarama.

Instead he will drive north to Mulindi for talks with the RPF leader Major-General Paul Kagame.

Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev (left) and his Spanish counterpart Julian Garcia Vargas confer during the meeting of Gen. Grachev with

the NATO defence ministers Wednesday (AFP

### Russia wants security forum with NATO

BRUSSELS (R) - Russia said Wednesday it wanted to set up special ties with NATO through which the two sides could discuss European and

global security problems.

Defence Minister Pavel Grachev told a meeting of his counterparts from NATO, Eastern Europe and former Soviet republics that Moscow wanted to set up an "active mechanism" with NATO that would go beyond military cooperation in the partnership for peace scheme.

"We are suggesting creats ing... an active mechanism for motual consultations on all kinds of problems of Enropean and global security," Gen. Grachev told the meeting.
These consultations would

work on a regular basis, not only when there was a crisis, he said, and would bring together experts as well as top military officials and political leaders. Russia reaffirmed Wednesday that it would sign NATO's

partnership for peace without setting conditions but said it wanted to sign a separate deal with the alliance on issues such as control of nuclear weapons. "We are not setting any preconditions for joining the part-nership," Gen. Grachev told reporters after meeting U.S. Defence Secretary William Perry at NATO Headquarters for more than an bour.

"It wouldn't be correct for Russia to set forth some specific conditions for cooperation or trying to say that we want to occupy a better place, a socalled warmer place under the sun, in the programme," Gen. Grachev said. Mr. Perry and other NATO

ministers welcomed the Russian commitment to join the partnership, which provides for closer military links between the West and its former cold war foes. Russia's commitment to sign

the partnership scheme, although no date has been set, represents a major boost for NATO which lannched the programme at the beginning of this year. Eighteen countries

have already signed.

Mnscow, which has disagreed with NATO policy over Bosnia and on some other issues, postponed signing the partnership last month and said it wanted the alliance to recognise formally its status as

two people have died in the

Irish government sources

said Mr. Reynolds and Mr.

Major would devote much of

their meeting to launching a

new round of inter-party talks

involving Dublin, London and

the province's political parties.

been exchanging documents on

conflict this year.

a major world power. Those demands had worried both NATO and Moscow's former satellites in Eastern European, who feared they would be shut out of a secret relationship between Russia and the alliance.

"We are very pleased that he announced the unconditional decision for joining the part-nership for peace," Mr. Perry

The barrel-chested Grachev, wearing a dark blue suit in-stead of his general's uniform, said be would present Russia's proposals on a broader relationship at Wednesday's meeting of NATO defence ministers with their counterparts from Eastern Europe and former Soviet republics.

The Russian programme is simply a broader cooperation with more events and more details... We have some provisions for cooperation which are specific only for Russia and only for some of the partners for cooperation," Gen. Grachev said.

This could take the form of a protocol or agreement to be signed by NATO and Russia-

the streets of Belfast and else-

Sir Patrick Maybew said the

two governments were work-

ing on the new framework ear-

lier this year and the sources

said it was a delicate, long-

term operation that would re-

Downing Street declaration it-

of drafting and redrafting be-

pean elections and maybe not

until early July, said one source familiar with the discus-

They said the framework

would be made public even if

Sinn Fein continue to "pre-

varicate" on the Downing

Street text and despite grumb-

lings from Northern Ireland's

They recalled that the

the product of mont

quire careful coordination.

Northern freland Secretary

### strawberries bigger than eggs'

China grows

Excuse me, officer. vou've dropped

LONDON (R) — British police have launched an in-sequiry into how two loaded police revolvers were found as a

the road after apparently fail-in

Newspapers and television:

news reports said police had:

confirmed the incident but had

declined to give more details. :..

A passer-by found the guns in

the town centre of Blackburn,

northern England Sunday and:

handed them in. They apparently fell off the roof of the police car, where they had accidentally been left a shift.

change-over, newspaper said. The gaffe is likely to refuel a;

row over whether or not to

provide guns for the tradi-

tionally unarmed British Police

Force. The government last-

week announced it was easing

rules for special armed re-sponse vehicles which patrol

the streets of Britain's cities.

The change will allow crews in."

London to carry their weapons, rather than keep them locked, up in the boot. Police unions,

arguing their members are in-

ereasingly coming under:

attack, have been arguing that the traditional British "bob-

bies" should be better pro

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BELJING (R) - China has developed a new strain of:: strawberry 'bigger than a chicken egg" and is now promoting it nationwide, the official. Xinhua News Agency said: Wednesday. The "Number Two Shimei" strawberry is: both bigger and sweeter than " those now imported from .: Japan, the news agency said, adding that one planted hectare could produce twice as a many berries as the Japanese. strain. "Development of the new strain of strawberries took. experts nine years," Xinhua; quoted officials at the Shijiazhuanng Fruit Growing Research Institute as saying.

#### Cat urine may have sparked fire in Japan

TOKYO (R) — Japanese fire men suspect a blaze that design troyed a farmer's shed was caused by cat urine seeping into a bag of lime, a police. spokesman said Wednesday. Nobody was hurt in the myste-:. rious fire that broke out at. island of Shikoku, on April 24. The spokesman said investigators had found no evidence of ... arson. Cat urine "seems to be :: the strongest possibility at the moment," be added. The only clues found by firefighters sifting the debris were the bodies of two kittens and the burned remnants of a 50 kg (110 ib). bag of lime. Dampness makes a hime highly inflammable but, the police spokesman said, it. was sunny on the day of the\_ fire. Moreover, the hut was in the mountains with no water source nearby. All these circumstances prompted investigators to surmise that the kittens' urine had trickled into the bag of lime, making it unstable

and eventually igniting it. Farmers commonly use lime to

### cess involving the Duhlin gov-

### Gen. Rose warns Bosnia Muslims they can't win war

SARAJEVO (R) — Bosnia's rival leaders prepared Wednesday to open talks on ending their two-year war as the U.N. commander in the former Yugoslav republic warned the Muslims they had no bope of winning a decisive victory.

His warning coincided with reports that Bosnian Croats were helping their Muslim allies on the battlefield, something which could encourage the Muslim-led government army to step up the fight to regain territory lest to Besnian

Representatives of the Bosnian government, and of Bosriao Serbs and Creats. gathered in the French lakeside resert of Talloires for talks with international mediators on the country's future ethnic

Sources close to the socalled "contact group" said talks had already begun with individual delegations but there were no immediate plans for face-to-face negotiations between the warring parties, their first since February.

Diplomats in France said the contact group would present the participants with a new mer of Exsuia giving Serbs 49 per cent, compared to the 70 per cent they now bold, and 51 per cent to a new Muslim-Crost federation.

On the eve of the talks, Bosnia's Muslim President Alija izerbegovic rejected a previous offer of a 51-49 split as unacceptable, and threatened to fight on unless

However the commander of U.N. peacekeepers in Bosnia,

from ordering fresh tests.

General Sir Michael Rose, warned a local Bosnian army commander Tuesday the Muslims had no chance of inflicting a decisive blow, even if the arms embargo nn former

Yugoslavia was lifted. "If all the blocks were lifted, it would take years for you to achieve a strategic balance with the enemy," Geo. Rose told Brigadier-General Mebmet Alagic, as witnessed by a Reuter correspondent,

"It's not a question of just buying equipment, but in putting the wbole operation togetber," Gen. Rose told Gen. Alagic, commander of a Bosnian Army Corps, during a visit to Travnik in central Bos-

Gen. Alagic countered that his forces bad been underestimated before and given little chance of defending Sarajevo: 'The world's impression was we wouldn't be able to sur-

Alagie said now that Croats and Muslims had stopped fighting since forming a new alliance and Bosnian Federation earlier this year, the Bosnian army could concentrate its energies on fighting the heavily-armed Serbs. Some U.N. military officers

and Western analysts say the future course of the war could depend on how willing the Croats were to actively assist the Muslims against the Serbs.

On Tuesday the U.N. reported that Bosnian army and Croat tanks were attacking Serb positions near Tesanj in a joint attack that marked the first time the Croat militia had fought alongside Muslim forces

in central Bosnia for more than

year. Military observers also reported that Serb forces in the northern Basnian town of Brcko came under artillery fire from Croatia across the border this week.

Croats could tip of the balance at Broko if they launched serious attacks against the Serbs, who are squeezed in a narrow corridor that is a vital supply line to Serb-held land in Croatia and Bosnia, military analysts say. The Yugoslav News Agency,

Tanjug, reported Wednesday that Croat forces had launched a mortar and beavy machinegun attack on Serb positions in Lijeskovac, near Brcko, during the night.

The agency also reported that one momber of a sevenman Croat sabotage unit trying to infiltrate the Brcko area had been killed and another wounded.

The commander of the Bosnian Serb Army's (BSA) East Bosnia Corps, General Novica Simie, told BSA Radio Wednesday they expected a Muslim offensive to hegin around Brcko by the end of the

month. "We are awaiting their major onslaught and after it is officially reported, we will do our joh and make sure we widen the corridor," he said.

Bosnian Serbs apparently fired on a hus being escorted hy U.N. peacekeepers Tuesday, killing a woman and wounding another passenger in the second violation of Sarajevo's truce in two days. U.N. officials had

announced earlier in the day that two Serb ianks trespassed in the NATO-imposed heavy weapons exclusion zone and shelled troops of Bosnia's

Musiim-ied government.

Meanwhile, Italian Defence Minister Cesare Previti said Wednesday Italy wants a more prominent role in the Bosnia peace process.

He said any intervention by Italian forces in the former Yugoslav republic would require a peace deal, acceptance of Italian troops by the warring Bosnian Croat, Serbs and Muslims and a formal request by the United Nations. "To this must be added a

greater consideration of our role in the peace process," Mr. Previti told state radio from . His comments illustrated the more vigorous approach to

foreign policy adopted by the

new conservative cabinet of media tycon Silvio Berlusco-Foreign Minister Antonio Martino said Toesday Italy's exclusion from a five-member "contact group" coordinating

peace efforts in ex-Yugoslavia was not acceptable. "I will state clearly that our country should be part of it," Mr. Martino said from Wasnington, where he met

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher. The group is made up of five senior officials from the United States, Russia, France, Germany and Britain. Many of the NATO forces enforcing a no-

fly ban and close air support over Bosnia are located in Italian bases.

outhreak. "Killer bug ate my

face," was the front-page

headline in the tabloid Star

newspaper, which interviewed

a man who needed skin grafts

after surviving an attack by the

since 1992.

Major, Reynolds to meet on N. Ireland LONDON (R) - Prime filled the political vacuum in Minister John Major and his the province, killing five people in the past week. Thirty-

Irish counterpart Albert Reynolds are to meel in London Thursday to review the fultering progress of their Northern Ireland peace initiative. British oficials said Wednesday.

The officials, confirming the 1500 GMT meeting at Mr. Major's Downing Street residence, said the two would lake the opportunity to meet while Mr. Reynolds is in England to make a speech to the Oxford Union Debating Society.

Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Major agreed joint peace declaration in December which they said offered the best chance for peace in 25 years of conflict in Northern Ireland, from which Irish Republican guerrillas are

trying to ous! Britain. it sought to aliay the fears of the Protestant majority, which wishes to stay part of Britain, and the Catholic minority which largely aspires to Irish But the guerrillas have since

fore it was made public as the "a new framework" to put political proposals onto the dibest opportunity for peace in plomatic principles of the years. Downing Street document for It is unlikely to be published until some time after the Euro-

some time, the sources said. Such discussions would not exclude the IRA's political wing Sinn Fein, providing it abided by the Downing Street Declaration and renounced violence and got the Irish Republican Army (IRA) to end its war against British rule.

They could also eventually involve the IRA's Protestant rivals providing there was a clear sign that the 25-year conflict had been removed from

political leaders about a proernment.

candidates. In Kentucky's 2nd district, with 75 per cent of precincts reporting, Ron Lewis, a minister and owner of a fundamentalist Christian bookstore, had 31,242 votes, or 55 per cent, and Joe Prather, a former state legislator and former state Democratic chairman, had 25,720, or 45 per

#### Republican wins election in Kentucky NEW YORK (AP) - A conretiring Democrat Glenn En-Batt, who defeated three other

servative Republican won a special election for the seat of the late Rep. William H. Natches Tuesday in a Kentucky district that has sent Democrats to Congress for the last 129 years.

It was the second such victory for the Republicans this year. In a special election carlier this month in Oklahoma, voters picked Republican Frank Lucas to fill the seat of

In other primary voting

Tuesday, two figures from the Whitewater scandal were on the ballot in Arkansas. And in ldaho. Attorney General Larry Echohawk won the Democratic nomination in his bid to become the nation's first Indian governor. His opponent for November is former Lieutenant Governor Phil

cent.

country's large companies. A SACOB spokesman also said business was more than willing to support Mr. Mandela's Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP). which aims to attack the backlogs in black areas created by

South African Chamber of Business (SACOB), which

represents the bulk of the

Dealers said the market had reacted positively, especially to the re-appointment of central Reserve Bank Governor Chris

Market analysts also said the speech would give confidence to overseas investors who have been delaying their entry into South Africa until their was clarity on future economic

Mr. Mandela focused on the RDP in his state of the nation address to parliament in Cape Town Tuesday, ending his speech with an appeal to all South Africans: "Let us get down to work."

#### Malaysia alarmed , over young loafers KUALA LUMPUR (R) -

improve soil condition.

Malaysian youths spend an average of 16 hours a week, or one month of the year, hanging out at shopping complexes and recreational centres, the New Straits Times said Wednesday. A government survey of the "lepak" or loafing culture found that 7! per cent of those surveyed smoked, 40 per cent watched pornographic videos, 28 per cent gambled, 25 per cen! drank alcohol and 14 per cent took hard drugs. The survey of 5,860 youths between the ages of 13 and 21, conducted by the Youth and Sports Ministry, is likely to come as a shock to many in Malaysia. Youth and Sports Minister Abdul Ghani Othman, who described the major. findings of the survey at a university seminar, said the government was especially worried about the increase in hard-drug use. He said 76,670 new beroin addicts were identified between 1990 and last year. Malaysian courts can im-. pose the death sentence for people convicted of possessing even small amounts of hard drugs. Mr. Othman said the survey would form the basis of. a nationwide plan to be launehed by Prime Minister: Mahathir Mohammad in August aimed at tackling the subspace problem, the New Straits Times reported.

#### which came to power 14 months ago. The president said earlie: this month that France would not resume nuclear testing haited two years ago, during his remaining year in office, and predicted world opinion would prevent successors

NEWS IN BRIEF

French parliament drops nuclear debate

PARIS (R) - In a victory for Socialist President Francois

Mitterrand, France's centre-right coalition government has

dropped plans to force a vote in parliament on the sticky

question of whether to resume nuclear testing. A National

Assembly (lower house) member who had been pushing for a

vote on new tests no lenger planned to pursue the vote,

Deleta: Minister François Leotard said Thursday. "The

property doubt make at (the question of testing) a regulatory

matter hir. Lectard told France Inter Radio. "But this is a

maties that should be left to the executive branch to decide."

Mudiea, tests have been a delicate issue in power sharing

between M. Mitterrand and the ruling coalition government

Quake rocks indonesia's Irian Jaya JAKARTA (R) — An earthquake measuring 6.8 on the Richter Scale hit the remote province of Irian Jaya Wednesday, damaging buildings and houses in Indonesia's half of New Guinea Island. Antara News Agency said. The agency quoted the local district chief in Nabire as saying that despite the damage there had so far been no reports of casualties. It said the earthquake erupted some 30 kilometres below the surface off Irian Jaya's northern coast at about 1 p.m. local time (0400 GMT). The Australian Seismological Centre in Canberra earlier said the quake struck in a mountainous area about 650 kilometres west southwest of Jayapura, capital of Irian Java. But officials confirmed the quake erupted at sea in Cender-

### Thais launch hunt for missing couple

BANGKOK (AFP) - Thai police scoured the border with Cambodia W. dnesday in search of two foreigners, one a U.N. worker, who went missing on a sightseeing trip to a temple under the control of the Khmer Rouge. The Belgian embassy in Bangkok identified the missing man as Michel Baran and said the woman who disappeared with him was also believed to be Belgian, although her name was not known. Mr. Baran works for the Bangkok based U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, or ESCAP, an embassy

The many bounds of

### Flesh-eating bacterium claims more victims LONDON (R) - British doc- lurid coverage to news of the

tors said Wednesday they were checking reports that as many as nine people had died from a virulent version of a common hacterium that dissolves fat and muscle, quickly killing many of its victims.

They urged calm after sensational media coverage of the outbreak, in which at least seven have died this year. Abont 10 people usually die from the infection per year in Bri-

tain.
'There's a lot of scaremongering. Everybody's who's got a sore throat thinks they've got it," said a spokesman for the government Public Health Laboratory Service (PHLS).

He said the agency was trying to decide how to coordinate checks on the outbreak of streptococcus a infection. Hospitals across Britain have been reporting cases after a cluster, or mini-epidemic, was reported in Gloucestershire.

vestern England. Doctors said a 57-year-old man and a woman in her 60s had died at a hospital in Winchester, soutbern England Wednesay and officials at another hospital in southern England confirmed a 58-year-old woman died last month.

Health officials urged the public to keep calm, explaining that anyone with the infection would be very ill with fever, diarrhoea, skin blistering and other clear symptoms.

British media have given

Diana Martin of the New Zealand Communicable Discases Centre said it was impor-

time not to get things out of proportion. Streptococcus, which caused childbed fever, scarlet fever and rheamatic fever in the past and which killed muppets creator Jim Flenson in 1990,

can mutate quickly into viru-

Officials in New Zealand

said they had also recently

treated patients with the dis-

The Dutch National Health and Environmental Protection Agency said a study revealed people had died of the S. Africa takes seat at U.N. conference infection in the Netherlands TOKYO (Agencies) - South "The number of cases is very African representatives took

low and spread around the their seats alongside other country. This is not an epidemic situation," a spokes-U.N. members at a Yokohama conference Wednesday - 20 woman for the agency said.

Norwegian doctors who years after Pretoria's delegates were expelled from General fought an outbreak in 1988 said Assembly business. the bacteria seemed to use a

The conference on disaster "slime capsule" to evade the reduction, set up by the Assembly, is the first U.N. body's natural defences. In Bonn, Health Minister related body since then to give Horst Seehofer demanded a South Africa a full role in its quick report from the National Health Agency on whether any cases of the flesh-eating bacterdeliberations, according to conference spokesman Mian ia were known in Germany. Quadrud Din.

South Africa under its apartheid regime, while never thrown out of the United Narions, earned a wide variety of sauctions, en:bargoes and recurring condemnation. As it moved away from apar-

thied after 1990, non-binding

economic, business, sporting

and cultural sanctions voted by

the General Assembly were all lifted. Since non-racial elections in April and the installation of a black-led government on May

if) the last restrictions are fast

disappearing.
The U.N. Security Council meeting later Wednesday was expected to lift a mandatory arms embargo imposed in

In the coming weeks, the General Assembly appears certain to allow South Africa to resume its sear, suspended in The Yokohama conference

stole a march on the Assembly

1977.

by "conditionally" recognising South Africa's delegation. Mian Quadrud-Din said the credentials committee would meet Thursday and ratify the decision. "All the conditions for all these restrictions have

disappeared. Today is a welcome for South Africa. Meanwhile. Business. labour and the media Wednesday hailed President Nelson Mandela's speech to parliament in which he launched an attack on poverty but. remained committed to fiscal dis-

Encouraging and reassuring." was the verdict of the

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### Australia withdraws World Cup bid

SYDNEY (R) - Australia withdrew its hid Wednesday to stage the World Cup in 2002, then immediately announced a design to host the tournament four years later. The decision effectively amounted to a victory for the Australian Soccer Federation (ASF), the game's national governing body, over the Victoria state government. Last week, Victoria Premier Jeff Kennett announced a bid for the 2002 World Cup without consulting the ASF or any of Australia's other five states. The ASF had consistently tavoured an application for 2006. "We are totally united in our bid for 2006," said ASF President Neville Wran following a two-hour meening with Kennett at Sydney Airport. As part of the compromise deal, Melbourne, the Victorian capital, would host the final, while Sydney in New South Wales would stage the opening ceremony and first match. "This is not just a dream, it will be a great bid," said Kennett ulterwards.

#### Olajuwon wins MVP award

NEW YORK (R) - Hakeem Olajuwon of the Houston Rockets was named the National Basketball Association's most valuable player Tuesday for the 1993-94 season. Olajuwon averaged 27.3 points and 11.9 rebounds per game in leading the Rockets In their second successive Midwest division title this season. Olajuwon was named NBA defensive player of the year tor the second straight season last week. The Nigerian-born centre received 889 points, including 66 first-place votes, from a nationwide panel of 101 writers and broadcasters. Olajuwon, the first centre to win the MVP award since Moses Malone of the 70ets in 1982-83, was the only player named on all 101 ballots. David Robinson of the San Antonia Spurs finished second in the belloting with 24 first-place votes and 730 points. Scottle Pippen of the Chicago Hells was their with seven first-place votes and 390 points. Shaquille O'Neal of the Orlando Magic was fourth with three first-place votes and 289 points and Patrick Ewing of the New ) lik Knicks was fifth with one first-place vote and 255 points.

#### Yiolence mars Greek championship finale

ATHENS (R) - Violence marred Greek basketball again Tuesday, as Olympiakos clinched their second straight domestic championship after beating Pank Salonika 76-65 in the season's decider. Two seconds from time fans hutled flates and coins onto the court. Pank players rushed to the dressing rooms after one of them was hit on the head by a coin and the match was interrupted for 40 minutes. Korae Cup winners Paok returned after being reminded that a permanent walkoff would jeopardise their place in next season's European competitions. Olympiakos coach Yannis foannides made an impassioned plea to the I4,000 fans over the stadium's loudspeakers. Fervent Greek fans have a record of trouble and hasketball chiefs have warned previously crowd misbehaviour could cost Atilians next year's European nations cham-

#### Morrison knocks down Griffin

TULSA, Okla (AP) - Heavyweight Tommy Morrison knocked down Sherman Griffin in the first round and rolled to a 10-tound unanimous decision Tuesday night. Morrisoo (4f-2) caught Griffin with a leading right with I:14 left in the first round and scored with a combination and seemed headed for an easy night. Griffin (f4-3) wouldn't back down, catching Morrison repeatedly with uppercuts when they were against the ropes. But he could not put his opponent on the deck, Two judges scored it 98-91 and the third had 97-92. Morrison's knockdown was the only one in the fight, but Griffin came close on several occasions. Late in the third round, Morrison complained of a low blow and then fired three straight rights that stung Griffin as the bell sounded. Griffin opened a cut under Morrison's right eye with a left hook in the fourth round. The St. Louis fighter landed an overhand right along the ropes and finished with a right uppercup. He continued the pace in the fifth round with another right that cut Morrison's lower lip. From the fifth round on, it was a matter of who's legs would hold up. Griffin moved around the ring along the ropes and successfully drew Morrison in, allowing Griffin to land repeated uppercuts. Morrison found his stride in the eighth round with a left hook that sent Griffin reeliog. By that pint, both fighters were too tired to finish it

### **Veart signs for Sheffield United**

ADELAIDE, Australia (AP) — Australian international striker Carl Veart was traded Wednesday by national champion Adelaide City to English first division club Sbeffield United. The transfer fee was around \$600,000, Australian Associated Press reported. Veart was set to join English premier league team Evertoo last year, but the deal was delayed by work permit problems and eventually fell through. Veart scored 16 goals for Adelaide City in the 1993-94 season and strarred for the elub in its 3-0 victory over Sheffield United in an exhibition match last week. Veart, 24, currently is playing with the Australian national team in Japan.

### **GOREN BRIDGE**

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

PRESERVE THE RUFF

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The bidding:

Fast South West North
1 NT Pass 2 . Dbl
3 Pass 4 5 Φ
Pass 5 Pass Pass
Dbl Pass Pass Pass Opening lead. Ten of •

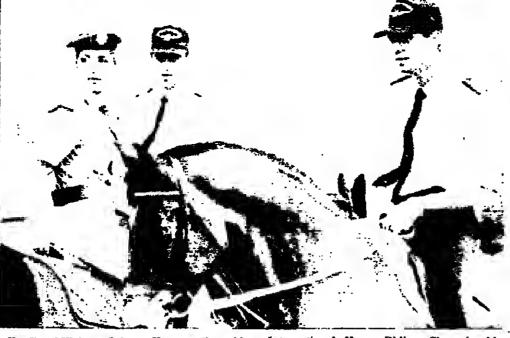
When you are a trick short of what you have contracted for, inch for the possibility of quiving a track a rathing in the short it amp hand But be cereful which out you roll, West's superflammed response coulde showed dismonds and, after East West, bid, the heart game. North competed further in his con-

Fact-West value table. But dealt NORTH care South took preference to purroce's first-bid sun and East's louble ended the auction The lead of the queen of hearts,

for a look at dummy, followed by a spade shift would have worked well the singleton spade. Declarer made the singleton spade. Declarer made the most of the opportunity. The opening lead was taken with the are and declarer immediately

the are and declarer immediately crossed to the are of clubs and took a ruffing timese for the queen. Had East covered, declarer would have ruffed, drawn trumps and lost only one trick in each major. However, Fast ducked as declarer discarded a heart, then ducked again when the

park was led, allowing declarer to park with a second heart. East was forced to rower the next deb with the king and it was tempting for South to rulf with the ninethat would land the fulfilling trick if East held the ten of diamonds However, there was a surer waydeclarer purified the remaining heart West ratifed, but a neart ruff in the closed hand was the fulfilling in a in all, decisted world for Imate pittinks, fivar clubs, a spade and



Her Royal Highness Princess Haya together with two Italian military colleagues during a training ssion in Rome Tuesday prior to the eightl

International Horse Riding Championships which will last till May 30 (AFP photo)

### Knicks hold off Pacers in conference finals opener

York Knicks, led by Patrick Ewing's 28 points, 11 rebounds and six blocked shots, held off the Indiana Pacers in the fuurth quarter to win the first game of the Eastern Conference finals 100-89 Tuesday.

"We could easily have lost it," said Ewing, "They made a gallant effort to come back but we withstood it."

Game two of the best-ofseven series is Thursday in New York.

Indiana came back from a 16-point deficit to cut the Knicks' lead to two points with just over four minutes left, but New York guard Hubert Davis answered with a clutch 3pointer to stem the tide. "f saw a little daylight," said

Davis. "I felt that I could make the shot and fortunately it went in for me.

Despite an 8-0 run by Indiana to start the game, New York built a 16-point lead in the first half, 53-37. Ewing scored f4 points in the first half and Charles Oakley, who finsished with 20 points and 13 rebounds, had 12 in the half.

The Pacers trailed after three quarters, 70-63, but then

gradually worked their way hack into the game. When Vern Flenting hit a running hank shot with 4:08 temaining, the Knicks' lead was just 85-83.

We got woken up tonight hy their comeback, and it wasii'l a quick one," said Davis. "They came back slowly, and that showed what kind of heart the Indiana Pacers

Indiana, seeded fifth in the east, had come back from double-digit deficits to "steal" playoff openers on the road against Orlando and Eastern Conference top seed Atlanta.

"We made a point at halftime about their comebacks in their games against Orlando and Atlanta," said New York coach Pat Riley. "We knew they would probably make a push and they did." But after Davis's 3-pointer

at 3:50 made it 88-83, the Pacers never came closer than

"The biggest play of the game was when they cut it to 85-83," said Riley. "Hubert Davis's 3-point shot, and then Charles Qakley made two unbelievable offensive tip-ins." Indiana coach Larry Brown

paid special tribute to Oakley. I thought he was the difference," Brown said.

Riley felt that fatigue from New York's emotional game seven win Sunday over their old nemesis, the three-time defending champion Chicago Bulls, had taken a toll in the second half. "I think the game was won on sheer will in the second half," Riley said. Rik Smits led fndiana with

"Rik had a tremendous game," Ewing said. "I've got to stop letting him get the ball

New York got good play from all four guards, even though Johan Starks got just three points and Derek Harper five. Greg Anthony scored a career playoff-high f6 points with three 3-pointers and Davis had 12 points.

But most important, the Knicks guards held Indiana's leading scorer Reggie Miller to 14 points.

"We made Reggie earn his points," said Harper. "He didn't get too many good looks at the basket tonight."

### Top-seeded Graf, Sampras advance in French Open

PARIS (AP) - After unexpected struggles, top seeds Steffi Graf and Pete Sampras advanced Wednesday to the third round of the French Open. Graf played poorly, and Sampras had his hands full with the youngest, worstranked player in the field.

Marcelo Rios, an 18-yearold Chilean ranked 283rd. forced Sampras into two closely fought liebreakers before the No. 1-ranked Californian prevailed, 7-6 (7-5), 7-6, [7-4],

Schoolchildren packed into Centre Court eheered boisterously for the Chilean, who played the biggest, best match of his life confidently in a backwards white baseball cap, gold earring and shoulder-length black hair. You have to give him a lot

of credit," Sampras said. "He didn't let the situation make him nervous or intimidated... He came out swinging away, nuthing to lose. That's the way it should be.

Sampras was joined in the third round by No. 4 seed. Andrei Medvedev of Ukraine, who beat Nicklas Kulti of Sweden, 6-4, 7-6 (7-4), 4-6,

Graf, pursuing het fifth consecutive Grand Slam utle, was broken early in each set by 67th-ranked Stephanie Rottier of the Netherlands, but came back to win 7-5, 6-3. Afterward, she was bluntly

"I played badly," she said. "Even during the warmups I was thinking already f wasn't

self-critical.

playing well."
The wins by Graf, Sampras and other seeds reversed a trend of first-round upsets. Three of the 16 seeded men and six of the women - including four of the top eight lost thier opening matches.

The disarray in the women's ranks has boosted the chances of lower seeds like No. 9 Lindsay Davenport, No. 10 Mary Joe Fernandez, No. 12 Mary Pierce and No. f5 Helena Sukova, all second-round winners Wednesday. The 6-foot-2 (1.88-metre)

Davenport, 17, overcame fellow American Chanda Rubin in the completion of a suspended match, 6-7 (7-2), 6-4,

cars in the new configuration

with 25 per cent less downforce

upon their teams by the fnter-

national Motoring Federation

(FIA) after Austrian Karl Wendlinger suffered critical

head injuries at the Monaco Grand Prix.

His accident followed the

deaths of Austrian Roland

Ratzenberger and three times

world champion Brazilian Ayr-

ton Senna at the ill-fated San

Blundell said of the new

cars: "They're different. To be

honest, it's a bit of a shock for

a driver like me who is from

the power-relative-to-grip gen-

In an interview with Motor-

ing News, published Wednes-day, Blundell was quoted

saying: "For some of the

others, like Martin, who were

there in the days of 1,200

horsepower and low down-

force, it may not be so bad.

partly because the changes

have been made in such a short

I, Shafini Alam, M.D.,

"But for me it's daunning,

Marino Grand Prix.

The changes were forced

at Silverstone last week.



nian Gabriela Sabatini Tuesday during the first round of the French Open. Farina won 2-6, 5-2, 6-4 (AFP photo)

6-2. Fernandez routed Mexico's Angelica Galvadon, 5-0,

Pierce, raised in Florida hu! playing for France, crushed 17year-old Matia France ica Bentivoglic of Italy, 6-0, 6-1. She is the only seed left in her quarter of the draw and could make the semifinals - probably against Graf - without facing a highly ranked player en

"I try not to think about it and just concentrate on my game," Pierce said "I hope I can get as far as the semifinals so I can play against Steffi. That would definitely be a very exciting match.

Sukova, a Czech, overtook Britain's Clare Wood, 2-4, 6-3,

Rios, winner of only \$17,980

Drivers concerned at instability

in a brief pro-careet, had squenked into his first Grand Shan by winning three qualtiving matches. He heat another little-known qualifier. Australia's Joshua Eagle. Monday, earning the right to second-round match with Sam-

He described himself as an Andre Agassi fan, and said he felt no feat on Centre Court. 'When I started playing, f tried to concentrate on my game," he said. "I didn't try to think that I was playing with Sampras... I was playing good, with a lnt of confidence.

Sampras, astonishingly out-aced by Rios 7 to 4, said he was content to "bring it out" from the paseline, tuther than playing serve-and-volley.

### Villeneuve sets Indy novice speed mark

INDIANAPOLfS, fndiana (AFP) — The late Gilles Villeneuve would be proud of his son, the fastest rookie ever in the fndianapolis 500.

The former Formula One racer, killed in a 1983 crash in Canada, has passed his love of racing to a new generation. "You always retain some things from your parents," Vil-leneuve said. "Hopefully I retained the good things.

Villeneuve was the fourthfastest qualifier for Sunday's Indianapolis 500. He will start on row two, directly behind another second-generation driver, pole sitter Al Unser Jnr. But unlike Unser, Canada's Villeneuve has had tn overcome tragedy.

'My father died when I was 12 and I didn't get any eneouragement from my mother," Villeneuve said. "It was maybe the best way to learn. You make your own mistakes. But I always knew I would race. No question. I was always in fast sports, like skiing

or motor tacing." Villeneuve qualified at 226.259 mph (362.014 km/h) in a Cosworth-powered Reynard chassis. His speed was 4.5 mph (7.1 km/h) faster than any other Indy rookie ever timed and surpassed his wildest

"I never expected to be this fast," he said. "I was flat out in qualifying. It feels great to be on the second row.

Villeneuve is one of nine first-time Indy starters, but the only one in the first fout rows. He is also the only newcomer with strong Formula One ties.

Villeneuve raced from 1989-1991 in the Italian Formula Three series, then spent 1992 on Japan's Formula Three circuit. He discovered the fndycar circuit while in Japan. "Until two years ago, you hardly heard about Indy-car in Europe," Villeneuve said. "I couldn't read the papers in Japan so f didn't read about it there either, f saw the Indy 500 there for the first time in 1992 and it was quite exciting, even

five in the morning. I woke up for the last lap, so it was OK." Villeneuve taced in the Formula Atlantic series last season and announced his Indy-car bid eight months ago.

if I fell asleep because it was

"f had wanted to come here a year earlier, but f didn't want to make a stupid decision and not go out with a top-level team behind me," Villeneuve

He drives for Australian native Barry Green, whose team is based here. "The team is a winner. I'm the only inexperienced per-son," Villeneuve said, "What's

important to going fast here is working well with the car and Barry has made this a most comfortable car." Villeneuve made his debut

in Australia, finishing 17th aftet bumping the car of rival Stefan Johansson of Sweden in a fight for fifth place. Villeneuve qualified second-

fastest at the second race of the yeat in Phoenix on his 23rd birthday.

central heating, and well.

Location: Jabal Amman, Fourth Circle.

LONDON (R) - Two of Britain's leading Formula One racing drivers expressed concern Wednesday at the instability of the latest specification "safer" cars they will race in this weekend's Spanish Grand Prix.

In the wake of Portuguese Pedro Lamy's accident Tuesday while testing a Lotus at Silverstone — the latest in a series of crashes in Formula One - Mark Blundeil and Martin Brundle expressed a lack of confidence about the safety levels of their cars.

Lamy was reported to be in a comfortable condition on Wednesday after breaking both kneecaps and a thigh in his 240 kph accident. Blundell, who drives for the

Tyrrell Team, said he felt the modified cars, with their downforce reduced by 25 per cent, were "a bit of a culture shock" and were not any safer than Brundle, who finished

second for McLaren in the recent Monaco Grand Prix, said he was more concerned about the timescale for the changes.
"Our car is not too bad,"

said Brundle. "But I want to reserve judgement - I want to drive it in the wet, where there's standing water." Both drivers had tested their

### PASSPORT LOST

announce the loss of my passport in Amman. The passport was issued in Dhaka, Bangladesh on October 20, 1982 and bears the number 828489. If found, please deliver

It to the nearest police station or call tel: 679876

of 'safer' Formula One cars timescale. Some people seem to have lost sight of the point of the changes which were to

make things safer. "I wouldn't say these cars are now more dangerous but they're not any safet. They'te 3.5 seconds a lap slower but they're no safer. There are going to be a few reams in Barcelona who haven't turned a wheel until Friday and I don't think that is making it safer."

Brundle said he felt there was significantly less grip. The car is less pure to drive. Before, it used to be an extension of youtself and would go where you pointed it. It reminds me of a new years

ago in terms of the overall level

of grip.
"Terminal speeds are the same and you arrive in the braking area at the same speed so if anything gnes wrong that needs looking at. That's why I'd like to see a reduction in power to go with it.

Stundell said he was worried about the wet conditions which were a possibility at the Spanish Grand Prix.

He said: "What happens when it tains and you hit a puddle without so much downforce? You're just going to aquaplane. Barcelona can be tricky in the wet."

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### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### Somali peace talks open

NAIROBI (AFP) — The United Nations has sponsored a new round of peace talks in southern Somalia, but many Somali faction leaders failed to turn up, a U.N. spokesman said Wednesday. Leaders of a southern faction allied to warlord Mohammad Farah Aideed were absent from the opening of the talks in the port city of Kismayu, attended by the leader of a rival group, Mohammad Said Hersi, known as 'General Morgan," son-in-law of ousted ruler Mohammad Siad Barre. Mr. Aideed's chief financier Osman Ato was there, but Somali analysts said it was unclear whether Mr. Ato was still a close advisor to the warlord. Kismayu, 500 kilometres south-west of the capital Mogadisbn, has been repeatedly battered by fighting between two rival factions of the Somali Patriotic Movement, one led by Mr. Morgan and the other, allied with Mr. Aideed, by Omar Jess.

#### Israeli tank kills one in Lebanon

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon (AP) — Israeli troops killed a Lebanese farmer with tank fire in South Lebanon Wednesday after they apparently mistook him for a guerrilla, U.N. sources said. Rashid Mansour, 60, was working in the fields at 5 a.m. (0200 GMT) near the village of Taibeh when an Israeli patrol detected movement, said a U.N. officer in the area. A tank fired two cannon rounds, killing Mr. Mansour, said the officer of the Finnish battalion of the U.N. Interim Force In Lebanon. He spoke on condition of anonymity. Taibeb, about 4 miles (6 kilometres) west of Israel's northern Galilee panhandle, is policed by UNIFIL's Finnish battalion. The village sits on the edge of the eastern sector of an enclave Israel occupies in southern Lebanon as a "security zone" to shield its northern towns from cross-border guerrilla attacks. The incident came a day after Israeli warplanes attacked Shi'ite Muslim guerrilla bases in Iqlim Al Tuffah north of the security zone in apparent retaliation for rocket attacks on Israeli-held territory.

#### France evacuates 361 from Yemen

PARIS (R) — France said two of its naval vessels evacuated 361 foreigners from the northern Yemeni city of Hodeidah. The naval support ship Jules Verne and a landing craft took out 340 Djiboutis, 13 French, six Yemenis, a Canadian and a Somali, the Defence Ministry said in a statement. The vessels were expected in Djibouti Wednesday morning. After fighting erupted between forces in northern and sonthern Yemen earlier this month, French planes and warships evacuated 1,456 foreigners in a four-day operation.

#### Muslim rebels kill 15 Burmese soldiers

DHAKA (R) — Muslim rebels fighting for an independent homeland in west Burma's Arakan province said Burmese troops have detained some 20,000 Muslim villagers to work as army porters and to use as buman shields against the guerrillas. The allegation was made in a statement by the rebel Rohingya Solidarity Organisation (RSO) faxed to news agencies in Bangladesh Tuesday night stating that its forces killed 15 Burmese soldiers in clashes last week. It said 11 soldiers were killed and several wounded when RSO guerrillas ambushed an army patrol on May 19 near Fansi village 48 kilometres north of Buthidaung townsbip. Fout other soldiers were killed and an unspecified number wounded in three other encounters between RSO and Burmese forces from May 19 to 21, it added. Earlier, the RSO claimed to have killed nine Burmese soldiers in a series of clashes between May 3 and 13 near Maungdaw township in Arakan.

### Malawians surprised by Muluzi's cabinet

BLANTYRE (AFP) — The cabinet appointed by new Malawian President Bakili Muluzi surprised observers who had hoped he would appoint members of oposition parties to key portfolios in an attempt to bridge the tribal and regional divisions revealed by last week's elections. Mr. Muluzi's United Democratic Front (UDF) swept the vote in the south, but the Malawi Congress Party (MCP) of former President Hastings Kamuzu Banda took the central region and the Alliance for Democracy (Aford) won all parliamentary seats in the north. The UDF took 84 of the 177 parliamentary seats. rive short of a working majority, and is negotiating a coalition with Aford, which won 36. The MCP won 55 seats, but Mr. Muluzi bas ruled out any power sharing with Mr. Banda's party. It was widely anticipated that the new president would offer some senior cabinet posts to Aford. In particular, the home affairs portfolio was expected to go to Aford leader Chakufwa Chihana. Mr. Muluzi surprised analysts by offering the post to UDF lawyer Peter Fachi and leaving only a few minor posts available for Aford.

### King Fahd to visit Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (R) - Saudi Arabia's King Fahd bas accepted an invitation to visit Pakistan, a Pakistan government statement said Tuesday. Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto extended the invitation when she met the king this week during the annual Muslim pilgrimage of haj to Saudi Arabia, the statement said. It gave no date for the visit.

### fran to continue dialogue with UAE

NICOSIA (R) — Iran said it favoured holding talks with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to try and resolve their sovereignty dispute over the Gulf island of Abu Musa. The Iranian news agency (IRNA) said Iranian parliament speaker Ali Akbar Nateo-Nouri Tuesday told a news conference "bilateral talks should continue to resolve the minor disputes between the two countries." But Mr. Nateq-Nouri said outsiders should not intefere in the islands dispute. IRNA said he was referring to a recent remark by Saudi Arabia's King Fahd "who sided with the UAE in its dispute with Iran over the island." Saudi Arabia's King Fahd in a joint statement with Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz Sunday said Iran should "return three islands" to the UAE to improve Tehran's relations with Gulf Arab states. The UAE said Iran in 1992 virtually annexed Abu Musa, jointly controlled by the two countries under an agreement in 1971. In response the UAE reasserted its claims to the two Greater and Lesser Tumbs Islands which Iran occupied in 1971 under the late shah. Talks have been stalled since last year. Iran rejects any link between Abu Musa and the other two islands.

### Syria regrets article about Jews

WASHINGTON (AP) - Syrian officials, responding to a complaint by Secretary of State Warren Christopher, say they regret publication of an article in the Syria Times that asserted Jews had undue influence over U.S. foreign policy and American media. The article in the English-language newspaper appeared before Mr. Christopher flew to Damascus last week for talks with President Hafez Assad and Foreign Minister Farouk Sbaraa on a settlement with Israel. It said Jews operating behind the scenes bad taken charge of foreign policy and the media, and that 30 per cent of Protestant bishops were Jews. Mr. Christopher condemned the article when reporters brought it to his attention and instructed Ambassador Christopher Ross to register a complaint with the Syrian government. Mr. Ross pointed out the article was full of errors, fact and analysis, reflected badly on Syria "and was written in an inflammatory tone reminiscent of Nazi propaganda," Michael McCurry, the State Department spokesman. said Tuesday. "The Syrian officials expressed regret about the content and tone of the article. They said the article bad not been commissioned by the government and had no official standing," Mr. McCurry said. While the government has "a substantial control and say over things that appear in the media," the United States is unable to determine whether the article on Jews was commissioned, he said.

### Trade Centre defendant's family say Israeli plot

By Suleiman Al Khalidi Reuter

ZARQA — The Jordanian mother and father of a man sentenced for bombing New York's World Trade Centre have proclaimed his innocence, saying he was a victim of an Israeli plot to smear the reputation of Arabs in the

Their son, Mohammad Salameh, 26, was among four Muslim "fundamentalists" sentenced Tuesday to 240 years each in prison by a U.S. federal judge in New York. The parents told Reuters Tuesday night that Israeli intelligence had framed him.

"God wreak vengeance on the judge and Israel, the whole world knows my son is innocent... it's an unjust sentence, 1 will continue to cry forever," said the sobbing 45-year-old mother of 11 children.

In sentencing Mr. Salameb U.S. District Judge Kevin Duffy called him a "sneak and a coward" and said the target that was chosen was intended "to kill the greatest number of

people possible." Mr. Salameh, a Jordanian citizen of Palestinian descent, was arrested last year after he tried to get a \$400 deposit back on a yellow rental van that

contained the bomb. The Feb. 26, 1993 bomb, which ripped through the garage level of the skyscraper at Innehtime, killed six people and injured more than 1,000 and caused bundreds of millions of dollars in damage.

The blast shocked Americans with the realisation that the United States was no longer safe from such violence. Where is democracy in

America? It's only because my son is a Muslim they framed him." Mr. Salameb's mother She was speaking to repor-

jailed rightists.

Mr. Mandela said after talks

with right-wing leader Ferdi

Hartzenberg in Cape Town he

hoped a peaceful solution

could be found to assuage

right-wing fears about black

majority rule following last

Blanche's involvement in ultra-

right activities. Dr. Hartzen-

berg and I are planning that

there should be a meeting be-

tween the three of us as soon as

possible," Mr. Mandela told

the Conservative Party (CP) which like the AWB (Afrikan-

er Resistance Movement)

wants a separate Afrikaner

homeland, said he would seek

the talks in the name of peace.

Terre Blanche because I think

such a meeting will be to the

benefit of our country and for

sed with Mr. Hartzenberg de-

mands for an amnesty for

rightwingers, including 33

AWB members standing trial

for a bomb blitz before the

country's first all-race elections

on April 26-29 which swept the

They also discussed granting

a broadcast licence to the rebel

Minister Bullah Omar was

drafting legislation on the issue

which would be presented to

parliament next week for de-

VIENNA (AFP) - Inspectors

from the International Atomic

Energy Agency (IAEA) have

completed their inspection of a

North Korean nuclear ex-

perimental reprocessing facil-

ity after taking samples, IAEA officials said in Vienna

The samples should allow

the IAEA to determine

whether plutonium could have

been manufactured or diversed

to the Yongbyon laboratory, located 90 kilometres (55

miles) north of the North

Korean capital Pyongyang.

possibly for use in making nuc-

for making nuclear bombs.

Earlier Wednesday IAEA spokesman Hans Friedrich

Plutonium is a key element

Wednesday.

lear bombs.

IAEA team completes

inspection of N. Korean facility

ANC to power.

Mr. Mandela said he discus-

peace," he told reporters.

"I am going to approach Mr.

ids. Has taberg, leader of

"We discussed Mr. Terre

month's historic elections.

He said the sentence made him lose what little faitb be had in American justice and demoters at the family's modest cracy. "When I heard the sentbome in Zarga, 25 kilometres

with neo-Nazi leader

ence, I asked myself where is justice, democracy and burnan rights which America says it defends and stands for.

Mr. Amin said Mohammad

An artist's sketch shows the four defendants in

the World Trade Centre trial speaking to U.S. District Judge Kevin Duffy (right) before their sentencing. (Left to right) Mohammad Salameh,

Nidal Ayyad, and Mahmud Abouhalima were

from Amman, where many

Palestinian refugees took up

residence after being forced to

leave the West Bank after

Her husband, Amin

Salameh, 52, a retired lieute-

nant in the Jordanian army,

said: "How could they bave

sentenced him for 240 years? I

will appeal this onjust sentence

made in the shadow of Amer-

ican justice which boasts of its

Mr. Amin said be was con-

vinced that his son Mobammad

was a victim of a "frameup by

the Israeli intelligence to smear

the reputation of the Arabs

and Muslims,"

Israel captured it in 1967.

the eldest of his children. had gone to the United States to help support his large family. His mother said the sentence was a cruel punishment to his brothers and sisters who had set high hopes that Moham-

out of their plight. "The court has told the family 'go die of bunger'," she said.
"My son is not an evil man and never committed a crime in his life, his pages are white," Mr. Amin said.

mad would one day raise them

Ramzi, 18-year-old brother of Mohammad, said: "Israeli intelligence Mossad saw

Mohammad was a sheikb and a devout Muslim and so framed it on him. It's all their work."

ition team sits in front of the defendants

AP adds Amin Salameb and Rima Ayyad, the wife of Nidal Ayyad, the second Jordanian who also got 240 years jail term, said they planned to use all means possible to overturn the ruling issued by the U.S. district court in Lower Manbattan Tuesday.

Prosecutors said Mr. Ayyad, a chemical engineer, personally obtained the ingredients for the bomb, and then sent several letters to news agencies soon after the blast purporting U.S. aid to Israel as the motive for the attack.

Rima Ayyad, 20, said: "My husband was expecting such a sentencing since he said all

President Boris Yeltsin in-

sists be has no claim on the

peninsula, part of the Russian

Federation until transferred to

Ukraine in 1954. Ukrainian

President Leonid Kravchuk.

however, detected an imperious lecturing tone in Mr.

Yeltsin's declaration last week

that use of force be ruled out in

Nationalist sensitivities run

high on both sides and reports

of Ukrainian troop move-

ments, denied by Kiev, have

abounded in the Moscow

Andrei Kozyrev, speaking at a

meeting of Baltic leaders in

Estonia Wednesday, said Rus-

sia had no territorial ambitions

"There is no border question

"If there were one we would

open a pandora's box... 1 think

there is no question of discus-

along that the governments of the United States and Israel were using him to smear the

image of Islam."
"I no longer trust the legal system of the United States," said the Newark, New Jersey, resident, who is visiting her family in Jordan with her 8month-old baby, Assem.

"I am going to appeal the verdict," she said in a cracked voice.

Mr. Ayyad's father-in-law, Abdullah Ghaboun, accused the U.S. administration "of attempting to find another monster for an enemy after They (Americans) want to

use Nidal and the other defen-dants in the World trade Centre bombing as a pretext to... launch a war against Islam," said Mr. Ghaboun, who visited Nidal last week at his prison in New York. Mr. Ayyad is of Palestinian

extraction, but beld a Jordanian passport and grew np in Kuwait before going to the United States where he acquired American citizenship in

The four defendants sentenced Tuesday are all deeply religious Muslims of Arab descent and some are followers of Sbeikh Omar Abdul Rahman, the Egyptian cleric whom prosecutors allege advocates violence against religious ene-

Sheikh Abdol Rahman is charged in a second case to be tried this fall for inspiring followers to "levy a war of urban terrorism" in this country.

The U.S. government alleges that Sheikh Abdul Rahman led a conspiracy dating back to 1991 to punish the United States for its support of

Israel and Egypt.
He was indicted for leading more than a dozen others in a plot to blow up New York City landmarks including the World Trade Centre and the United

#### Tramp saved by Diana

LONDON (R) - A tramp

saved by Princess Diana from drowning in a central London lake said she was a "miracle lady" straight out of the pages of a fairytale. "To be saved by a princess is beyond the dreams of a tramp. The lady's a miracle to me... It's like a fairytale," Martin O'Donoghue told the Daily Mirror newspaper. Mr. O'Donoghue, 42, said Princess Diana. estranged wife of beir to the throne Prince Charles, visited bim twice in bospital where he lay unconscious for five days after the incident 10 days ago. Princess Diana bad rushed to the edge of a lake in London's central Regent's Park to help pull Mr. O'Donoghue out of the water. Finnish Student Karl Kotila then gave him mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. On her first visit Princess Diana left him £5 (\$7.5) in a "get well" card that carried the message "wishing you a quick recovery — from Diana." Later she dropped in to see te Irish-born vagrant again. She smiled, touched his band and said: "God bless you, Paddy." Paddy is a common nickname for people of Irisb descent. In return for her kindness, Mr. O'Donoghne said be offered Princess Diana a gypsy blessing. Diana was returning to ber London bome by car after jogging in the park when her chauffeur was stopped by a group of anxious tourists who spotted the tramp falling off a bridge. Mr. O'Donogbue, who lives in a park shed, said he jumped off the bridge to avoid a dog that bad attacked him, He bad aimed for the bank but because he was half-drunk he fell in the water. "I just can't believe I survived. God must have had a hand in it." he said. He discharged himself from bospital Sunday.

### **Britain awards** national jottery

licence to Camelot LONDON (R) - Britain's office, of the National Lottery, after months of secret deliberations, said Wednesday it had chosen Camelot Group PLC ahead of seven other groups to operate its new National Lottery. The Camelot Group is made up of confectionary giant Cadbury Schwep-pes PLC, Gtech Holdings Corp which supplies lottery cialist printer De La Rue, Racal Electronics PLC and Japanese-owned computer firm ICL. National Lottery Director General Peter Davis said Camelot was best placed to run the lottery "with due propriety," protecting the intetests of participants and maximising net proceeds. The licence is due to be formally awarded in July. The National Lottery is widely tipped to be the biggest in the world and turnover could reach £4 billion (\$6 billion) a year, leisure analysts say. The government plans to spend half of that money on prizes and has said it will take 12 per cent in tax. Around a quarter of proceeds are expected to go to the government's five designated "good causes" — the arts, sports, heritage, charity and a millennium fund to fete the year 2000 -- and the operator will take the rest to cover costs

#### and profit. Life of former premier wins U.K. richest book prize

LONDON (R) - An unauthorised biography of former Conservative Prime Minister Edward Heath won Britain's richest literary award confounding bookmakers who tipped another work to win. Scottish author John Campbell's Ed-ward Heath — A Biography" won out over competing works on the lives of a British poet, a Spanish dietator and an Irish nationalists. Bookmakers Ladbrokes had tipped Andrew Motion's biography of poet Philip Larkin to win 7:4 and made Robert Kee's work on Irish pairiot Charles Stewart Parnell second favourite at 9:4. Campbell, 47, who has previously written books about British politicians Lloyd George, Roy Jenkins and Nye Bevan, was awarded the £25,000 (\$37,600) prize for non-fiction at a glittering din-ner for 300 guests in London's Savoy Hotel. Mr. Heath 78. still a serving member of parliament, was prime minister from 1970 to 1974 and took Britain into the European Common Market. He was ousted from the Conservative Party leadership by Margaret Thatcher.

### Black Sea Fleet deal remains evasive Mandela seeks meeting

tbe dispute.

of any kind.

press.

CAPE TOWN (Agencies) — President Nelson Mandela said Earlier Wednesday, Mr. Terre Blanche said Mr. Hart-Wednesday he was seeking to meet neo-Nazi leader Eugene zenbetg had no mandate to negotiate with the ANC on behalf of the AWB. Terre Blanche to discuss his He would only hold talks with Mr. Mandela's national demands for a separate white homeland and amnesty for

unity government on condition that all right-wing prisoners, sentenced or awaiting trial, be teleased. "This is the only condition under which we will even con-

sider having talks. The AWB wishes to place on record that of any nature with the ANC," he said in a statement. "We bave not given any

person or body outside the ranks of the AWB authority or mandate to have discussions with any other person, party or body, for and on behalf of our organisation.

Mr. Terre Blanche warned of violence if the amnesty were not granted, saying: "Our people will continue with their struggle until they are free." The CP boycotted the elec-

tions after failed attempts to secure a sovereign white homeland. Party officials say Mr. Hartzenberg still believed a homeland was achievable in post-apartheid South Africa. Meanwhile Safety and

Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi Wednesday annoonced sweeping changes to transform South Africa's old apartheid police into a publicorientated "user-friendly" The new police would fit

into the country's current philosophy of "forgiving the past Radio Pretoria and selfwithout forgetting it," he told a determination for Afrikaners. Mr. Mandela said an amnes-Mr. Mufamadi announced ty was "premature." Justice

the creation of three bodies to assist in setting up a system of "policing of the community by the community and for the community."

Meyer announced that one in-

spector who was part of a

three-man team that arrived in

North Korea last week to carry

out the inspection has left the

country.

The other two inspectors were holding talks Wednesday

with officials in Pyongyang

along with two special IAEA

envoys who arrived in the

North Korean capital Tuesday.

pected to continue through

an experimental nuclear reac-

North Korea of diverting some

of its nuclear fuel for military

The United States suspects

tor, also at Yongbyon.

The talks, which were ex-

MOSCOW (R) - Russian-Ukrainian talks on sharing out the Black Sea Fleet and defusing tensions over Ukraine's Crimean peninsula seemed far

from success Wednesday.

A Russian official told journalists the two sides had prepared a package of agreements that, among other things, outlined problems involved in splitting the fleet. But it seemed to stop short of the final settlement both sides anxiously seek.

By Wednesday afternoon, on the third day of talks, Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chemomyrdin had withdrawn from the negotiations, leaving the field to expert groups.

Uncertainty over control of the former Soviet fleet only compounds tensions between the two states over the Crimean peninsula where the ships are based.

The political leadership of Crimea, a Ukrainian territory with a big Russian majority, last week adopted a new constitution that loosens ties with Kiev and moves the peninsula towards realignment with Rus-

Kiev accuses "nationalist forces" in Russia of encouraging the move as a step towards reabsorbing Crimea and then Ukraine itself.

sing borders, neither with Ukraine nor with Latvia nor Estonia. The danger facing both sides in the Crimean issue is that the

in Europe," he said.

militant Crimean administration could force the issue of autonomy and, ultimately, independence. Mr. Kravchuk, in a crisis.

could come under strong pressure to act decisively to prenot formally resolved, being forced to chose allegiance between Russia and Ukraine.

serve control over the peninsu-

The nightmare then is of a

Black Sea Fleet, its fate still

The Russian view is that Ukraine should base its ships in Balaklava and Donuzlav, leaving the fleet headquarters of Sevastopol, on the Crimean peninsula, undet Russian control, bot not sovereignty.

Ukraine, howevet, insists on the right to station some ships in Sevastopol, which would be the headquarters of the Ukrainian fleet as well as of the Russian one.

At talks in Sevastopol last month, Russia and Ukraine worked out a formula on dividing the fleet. But the meeting broke up in acrimony over where to base each country's

Ethnic Russians make up about 70 per cent of the 2.7 million residents of Crimea.

Ukraine offered Crimea broad autonomy after independence from Moscow. But economic collapse prompted Crimeans to elect Russian nationalist Yuri Meshkov president in January and vote heavily for closer ties with Moscow in a March referen-

Tallinn says the questions of

troops and the rights of pen-

### Russia attacks Estonian human rights

TALLINN (R) - Moscow Wednesday delivered a stinging attack on the treatment of Russian speakers in Estonia and made clear that withdrawal of its troops from the republic would depend on respect for minority human rights.

A memorandum to the Council of the Baltic Sea states from the Russian delegation, led by Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev, accused Estonia of discriminating against Russian speakers and of forcing them to leave the country.

"It gives rise to deep concern that the process of establishing an independent Estonian state is accompanied by the non-Russian population being forced out of the coun-

try." the memoranoum
Estonian Foreign Minister
Tuesday held Juri Luik, who Tuesday held two hours of talks with Mr. Kozyrev to try to reach a deal which would lead to Russia pulling its 2,500 troops out of Estonia, said he was saddened by the attack.

"We are a little hit sad because the atmosphere was real-Thursday, were focusing on measurements of fuel rods at ly good but I think we will get over it.

The Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania won independence in 1991 after a failed hardline coup against then Soviet leader Mikhail purposes, a charge denied by the government in Pyongyang. Gorhachev. But the issue of

former Soviet troops have soured Moscow's relations with all three. Russia has withdrawn forces

from Lithuania and has agreed to pull its 10,500 troops out of Latvia by the end of August. But it has no deal with Estonia The memorandum, which Mr. Kozyrev said had been leaked, said Estonian laws on

criminated against Russians in the country. "It speaks for itself that up to now only about 30,000 of the absolute majority of the 400,000 Russians who would like to become citizens of this

citizenship, language, educa-tion and in other spheres dis-

country have been able to do so," the memorandum said. Mr.Kozyrev told a news conference a new regional human rights watchdog appointed by the council would to tackle the

"I hope the high commissioner appointed at this meet-ing will also address these issues and help us to solve this problem. We cannot just close our eyes and not see them."

Mr. Kozyrev said. The position of Estonia's 40 per cent Russian minority. including thousands of military

pensioners, has become linked

between Tallinn and Moscow.

with talks on troop withdrawal

sioners are not linked, but Mr. Kozyrev insisted there would be no deal without resolving both issues. "We are negotiating a package which would include withdrawal of those troops and protection of the rights of those pensioners," he After Tuesday's meeting be-

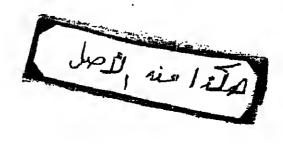
tween Mr. Kozyrev, Mr. Luik and Estonian President Lennan Meri, both sides spoke of their common will to reach agreement as soon as possible. They agreed to arrange new meetings to try to forge a deal and Mr. Luik said the first

Tension over the troops overshadowed the two-day meeting of the council, which groups Russia, the three Baltic states. Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Germany and Poland.

meeting would be in Tallinn.

In a closing communique. the ministers expressed their conviction "that the withdrawal of foreign troops from Estonia and Latvia will be prompt. complete and orderly.

Former Danish Justice Minister Ole Esperson was named as the region's first commissioner on democratic rights and institutions, including the rights of members of



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